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WHITE SANDS RESOURCE AREA

(12)

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
LAS CRUCES DISTRICT OFFICE
NEW MEXICO

OCTOBER 1986

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RESOURCE AREA

(5)

WHITE SANDS

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
LAS CRUCES DISTRICT OFFICE
1800 Marquess St.
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

October 1986

Dear Reader:

Enclosed is a copy of the White Sands Resource Management Plan (RMP). This RMP sets forth the land use decisions, terms, and conditions for guiding and controlling future managment actions on approximately 1.8 million surface acres of public land and 3.6 million subsurface acres in the White Sands Resource Area (WSRA).

This document as indicated in the September 1986 Record of Decision for the White Sands RMP describes how the public land in the Resource Area will be managed. Chapter 2 of this Plan describes the General Management Guidance and Specific Decisions that will guide future management of the public land in the WSRA. Chapter 3 describes how the Plan will be implemented, monitored, evaluated, and maintained.

If you have questions on this Plan, please contact me or members of my staff at the WSRA office, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 88005, telephone (505) 525-8228.

Sincerely

P. Robert Alexander
Area Manager
White Sands Resource Area

Enclosure

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

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INTRODUCTION

This resource management plan (RMP) sets forth the land use decisions, terms, and conditions for guiding and controlling future management actions in the White Sands Resource Area (WSRA). All uses and activities in the Resource Area must conform with the decisions, terms, and conditions as described herein. The Plan was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.

The Plan describes how the Resource Area will be managed. Chapter 2 describes the General Management Guidance and Specific Decisions that will guide future management of the public-owned resources in the WSRA. Chapter 3 describes how the Plan will be implemented, monitored, evaluated, and maintained.

This document does not present information on the existing environment or the environmental consequences of the decisions. That information was previously discussed in environmental impact statements (EISs) which are available for review in the White Sands Resource Area Office.

PURPOSE AND NEED

In the 1970's and 1980's, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) conducted several planning efforts on what is now the WSRA. These planning efforts resulted in several management framework plans (MFPs) that provided management direction for various resources and resource problems. The MFPs, which are being replaced by the RMP, include the Mesa MFP completed in 1973 and the Southern Rio Grande MFP completed in 1982. Also, the McGregor EIS was completed in 1980 for grazing management on the McGregor Range co-use area. Because of changing circumstances and conditions, including new legislation, changing policies, and new land use conflicts and issues, a RMP was needed. The resource management planning effort was initiated in 1983 to cover the entire WSRA.

The primary land use conflicts and management issues which necessitated the preparation of this Plan include the following.

Rangeland Management. Various levels of rangeland use by livestock, wildlife, watershed, and wild burros, as required by BLM policy, were considered in the planning process. Forage utilization, rangeland improvements, and management intensity were considerations under this topic. The proper use of forage by livestock and wildlife, as well as providing ground cover for watershed protection, are of management concern throughout the Resource Area.

Special Management Areas. Designation of public land as open, limited, or closed to off-road vehicle (ORV) use was a consideration in the planning process. Other areas also warrant special management due to their unusual, historic, cultural, mineral, recreational, natural hazard, or scenic value; their natural systems or processes; or their significance and special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern.

Land Tenure Adjustment. Identification of lands which might be suitable for disposal is a current management concern. Those areas within the Resource Area that contain isolated parcels of land that are difficult and uneconomical to manage were identified. Other considerations were areas where disposal will serve important public objectives. These include, but will not be limited to, expansion of communities as needed for economic development which could not be achieved prudently or feasibly on land other than public land. Public lands not identified for disposal will be retained in BLM ownership, except that within the retention areas, only those parcels which will enhance overall consolidation of public land will be considered for exchange.

Access. Development of access to areas of public land, especially those having significant resource or recreation values for which there is high demand and no legal access, is a management concern. In areas where there is mixed private, State, and Federal land ownership, some of the roads on public land are accessible only by traveling across roads on non-Federal lands. It is conceivable that, in situations where the roads across non-Federal

lands are not considered to be "public domain" roads (i.e., are not maintained by the county or state, or considered to be public thoroughfares due to a history of established use), the non-Federal landowner could block access to both BLM and the public. This could result in public land being isolated from public use and BLM management activities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AREA

The WSRA is located in south-central New Mexico and includes Otero and Sierra Counties. In addition to the two counties (see Map 1-1), the Rangeland Management Issue includes parts of 20 additional allotments that extend into Lincoln, Chaves, Eddy, Dona Ana, Socorro, and Luna Counties.

Approximately 7 million acres of Federal, State, and private lands lie within the WSRA boundaries. The BLM administers approximately 1.8 million surface acres and 3.6 million subsurface acres in the Resource Area. Land ownership is shown on Table 1-1. Land status is shown on Visuals A and B, located in map pocket.

TABLE 1-1
WSRA LAND STATUS IN ACRES[a/]

Landholders/ Managers	Otero County	Sierra County	Total
Public Land	929,578	823,252[e/]	1,752,830[e/]
Withdrawn Land[b/]	1,459,752	538,036	1,997,788
Other Federal Lands	497,296	467,587	964,833
Indian Lands	460,255	-0-	460,255
State Land	449,908	361,195	811,103
Private Land	451,531	510,090[e/]	961,621[e/]
Total Federal[c/]	2,886,626	1,828,875[e/]	4,715,501[e/]
Total Acreage[d/]	4,248,320	2,700,160	6,948,480

Sources: Statistical Abstracts, 1979-80. The Bureau of Land Management Factbook, 1982. Master Title Plats.

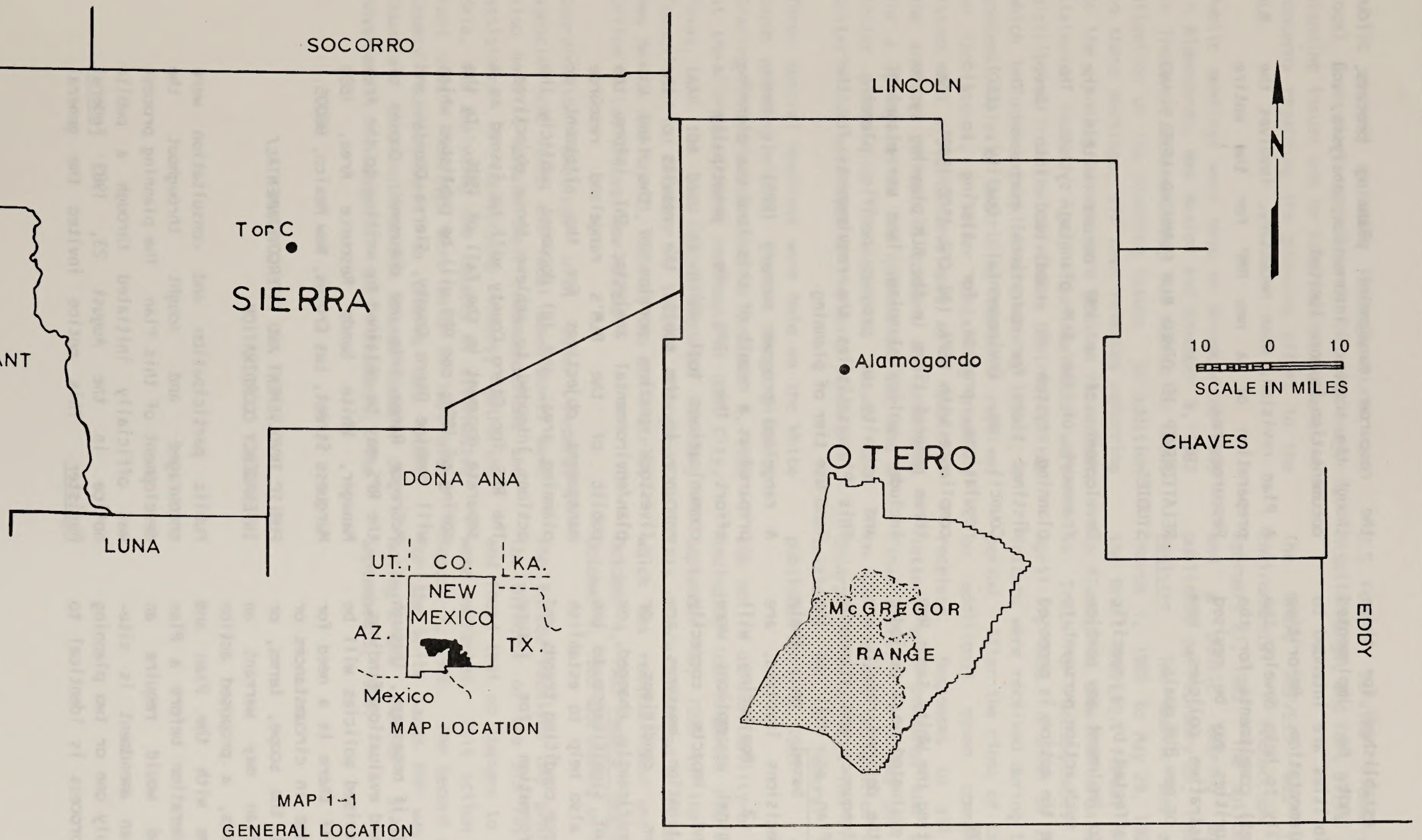
Notes:
[a/] Inland water areas are included in ownerships.
[b/] Includes that portion of McGregor Range cooperatively managed by BLM and U.S. Army; approximately 515,000 acres.
[c/] Includes BLM, withdrawn, and other Federal lands not listed (such as Forest Service and National Park Service).
[d/] Includes total Federal, Indian, State, and private lands.
[e/] Change in acreage from Draft RMP/EIS due to Navajo-Hopi Exchange Record of Decision (June 7, 1985).

IMPLEMENTATION

All future resource management authorizations and actions, including budget proposals, will conform or, at a minimum, not conflict with the Plan. All operations and activities under existing permits, contracts, cooperative agreements, or other instruments for occupancy and use will be modified, if necessary, to conform with this Plan within a reasonable period of time, subject to valid existing rights.

This Plan does not repeal valid existing rights on public land. Valid existing rights are those claims or rights to public land that take precedence over the actions in the Plan. As an example, a mining claim issued prior to the preparation of this Plan in an area withdrawn from mineral entry through the Plan may be valid. Valid existing rights may be held by other Federal agencies or by private individuals or companies. Valid existing rights may also pertain to oil and gas leases, rights-of-way, and water rights.

Decisions in this Plan will be implemented over a period of years. In some cases, more detailed and site-specific planning and environmental analysis may be required before an action can be taken. The EIS prepared in association with this Plan plus the grazing EIS prepared for the Southern Rio Grande (Sierra County) and McGregor will be used as a base and incorporated by reference in any additional site or program specific environmental analyses. Requirements for additional planning and analysis are incorporated in the decisions found in Chapter 2.



MAP 1-1

GENERAL LOCATION

WHITE SANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AREA

Portion of McGregor Range not Administered by the BLM.

Source: BLM Las Cruces District Files 1986.

Priorities have been established for those decisions which can not be implemented immediately. These priorities are intended to guide the order of implementation. Priorities will be reviewed annually to help develop the annual work plan (budget) commitments for the coming year. The priorities may be revised based upon new administrative policies, new Departmental directions, or new BLM goals.

Any person adversely affected by a specific action being proposed to implement any portion of this Plan may appeal such action pursuant to 43 CFR 4.400 at the time the action is proposed for implementation.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The effects of implementing the White Sands RMP will be monitored and evaluated on a periodic basis to ensure that the desired results are being achieved. The frequency and standards for monitoring the Plan as well as the individual resources, based on their sensitivity to the decisions involved, are explained in Chapter 3. Monitoring will determine whether original assumptions were correctly applied and impacts correctly predicted, whether mitigation measures are satisfactory, whether conditions or circumstances have significantly changed, or whether new data are of significance to the Plan. Monitoring will also help to establish long-term use and resource condition trends and provide valuable information for future planning.

CHANGING THE PLAN

The Plan may be changed, if necessary, through amendment. Monitoring and evaluation findings, new data, and new or revised policies will be evaluated to determine if there is a need for an amendment. Any change in circumstances or conditions which affect the scope, terms, or conditions of the Plan may warrant an amendment. In all cases, a proposed action that does not conform with the Plan and warrants further consideration before a Plan revision is scheduled would require an amendment. Generally an amendment is site-specific or involves only one or two planning issues. The amending process is identical to the resource management planning process, though the scope of information, analysis, and documentation is more limited.

A Plan revision, when necessary, involves the preparation of a new RMP for the entire Resource Area.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER BLM PLANNING LEVELS AND STUDIES

Development of a RMP occurs within the framework of the BLM planning system. The planning system is subdivided into three distinct tiers for operational purposes. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations provide for tiering to aid compliance with NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508). The three general tiers in the BLM planning system include: policy planning; land use planning; and activity or program-specific planning. This Plan satisfies the requirements for the land use tier of planning.

A rangeland program summary (RPS) is being prepared as a result of this land use planning effort. The RPS is principally a communications tool which is used to: (a) announce to the public the results of the livestock grazing portion of the land use plan/environmental analysis; (b) inform the public of the BLM's rangeland resource management objectives for the allotment or planning area; and (c) document publicly the actions intended to achieve those objectives. The RPS for Otero County will be issued as a separate document in the fall of 1986. In the spring of 1987, one RPS will be published which will combine Otero County, Sierra County, and McGregor Range into one document. Copies of the RPS may be obtained by writing to the Area Manager, White Sands Resource Area, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 88005.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL/ INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

Public participation and consultation were encouraged and sought throughout the development of this Plan. The planning process was officially initiated through a public notice in the August 23, 1983 Federal Register. This notice invited the general

public as well as other Federal, State, and local Government agencies to identify major planning issues and to submit other comments or concerns regarding the planning effort to the BLM.

Public meetings were held on November 8, 1983 in Alamogordo, New Mexico and November 9, 1983 in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico to focus attention on the planning issues. In addition to these meetings, six news releases referring to the planning process were printed in various Statewide media. Also, four mailouts were distributed from the Las Cruces District Office which included a booklet on planning issues; a content analysis describing comments received on the issues; a letter containing planning issues and criteria developed as a result of the analyses of public comment and providing for a 30-day review and comment period; and a letter containing the approved issues and criteria that were used in the White Sands RMP.

Three special meetings were held on the White Sands planning effort. The Las Cruces District Grazing Advisory Board met on December 6, 1983 at the Cienega School, northeast of Dell City, Texas, and the Las Cruces District Advisory Council met on December 7, 1983 in Alamogordo, New Mexico and May 23, 1984 at the BLM District Office in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Coordination meetings with other Federal agencies and State and local Governments were also held to obtain their recommendations and assistance in identifying issues, gathering data, and analyzing the impacts of alternative land uses. Meetings were held in 1984 with County Commissioners in Sierra and Otero Counties, the Southern Rio Grande Council of Governments, Alamogordo City Planners, the U.S. Forest Service Planners, White Sands Missile Range, and Fort Bliss.

The Draft RMP/EIS was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency on February 21, 1985. The notice of availability and a public hearing announcement were published on February 26, 1985 in the Federal Register. The public was provided 90 days (March 1, 1985 to May 29, 1985) to comment on the Draft RMP/EIS. Formal hearings were held in Alamogordo, New Mexico on April 16, 1985 and in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico on April 17, 1985. A total of 26 written comment letters were received during the 90-day comment period. After the close of the comment period, an additional seven comment letters were received. Responses to all written comment letters were prepared and published in the Final RMP/EIS. A 60-day public comment period on the proposed designation of the Sacramento Escarpment as an ACEC for visual resource was initiated in a Federal Register notice published April 3, 1985.

The notice of availability of the Final RMP/EIS including the Proposed Plan was published on September 16, 1985 in the Federal Register. This notice announced a 30-day protest period, which was reestablished and published in the October 4, 1985 Federal Register commencing on October 4, 1985 and ending on November 4, 1985.

The Bureau received one protest to the Plan. The Director of the BLM reviewed the protest and found that no changes to the Proposed Plan were warranted. This action was effective on August 7, 1986. The Record of Decision (ROD) for the White Sands RMP was approved by the Acting New Mexico State Director on September 5, 1986.

CHAPTER 2

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

CHAPTER 5

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the decisions that will guide future management of the reources on the public land in the White Sands Resource Area (WSRA). These resource management decisions, together with the general management guidance discussed at the beginning of each major resource management section, constitute the resource management plan (RMP) for the Resource Area.

The chapter includes decisions that establish land use allocations and approved management actions. This chapter also carries forward, where applicable, decisions from the Southern Rio Grande Management Framework Plan (MFP), the Southern Rio Grande Rangeland Program Summary, the Mesa MFP, the McGregor Rangeland Management Program Document, the White Sands Oil and Gas Record of Decision, and the Mineral Material Disposal Record of Decision. The Southern Rio Grande MFP covered Sierra County, the Mesa MFP covered the northeastern portion of Otero County while the White Sands RMP now combines Sierra and Otero Counties into one resource management plan. This chapter is organized by resource use and includes a Decision Index, Maps, General Management Guidance, and Specific Resource Management Decisions.

The General Management Guidance section provides information and direction on resource condition objective and management directions for major program activities. This section identifies the basic resource values that BLM intends to protect, maintain, or enhance through the implementation of this Plan. These resource condition objectives will be used to help guide future management decisions and constrain future actions that have not been anticipated in the Plan. These objectives will also be used to help monitor plan implementation. Information on resource condition objectives is also contained in specific resource decisions, the planning criteria, and the decision documents previously mentioned.

The General Management Guidance section also describes the management direction for each major program activity in the Resource Area. While the management direction that is established varies from activity to activity, it generally includes such factors as: permitted or restricted management practices, capital improvements, anticipated or desired use levels, required designations, and subsequent planning needs.

The Specific Resource Management Decisions' section establishes the land use allocations for each resource program. The purpose of this section is to geographically describe the land uses that will be allowed in the Resource Area and any general terms and conditions associated with such land uses.

DECISION INDEX

The resource management decisions contained in this section are presented in the sequence shown in the following list.

The maps at the back of this document define the areas where the decisions apply. These maps are for display purposes only. Specific locations are shown on detailed maps available for review in the WSRA Office.

LANDS (Map 2-1)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

L-1. Review Public Water Reserves

L-2. Remove Restriction

L-3. Land Tenure Adjustment

ACCESS (Map 2-1)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

A-1 Legal Access

MINERALS (Map 2-2)

Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Leasing

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

OGG-1. White Sands Missile Range Safety Evacuation Area

OGG-2. Wilderness Protection Stipulations

OGG-3. Caballo Mountain Communication Sites (no surface occupancy [NSO])

OGG-4. Ecological Study Plots (NSO)

OGG-5. Rattlesnake Hill ORV Designation

OGG-6. National Register of Historic Places (Rattlesnake Hill)(NSO)

OGG-7. National Register of Historic Places (Alamo Mountain)(NSO)

OGG-8. Tularosa River (NSO)

OGG-9. Sacramento Escarpment (Scenic)

OGG-10. R&PP Leases/Patents

Locatable Minerals

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

LM-1. Withdrawn Lands

Mineral Materials

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

MM-1. Mineral Material Needs

MM-2. Access to Mineral Material

Areas of Critical Mineral Potential

General Management Guidance

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

White Sands Resource Area (Except McGregor Range)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

RM-1. Initial Livestock Grazing Use

RM-2. Allotment Management Plans

RM-3. Rangeland Monitoring Program

RM-4. Rangeland Program Summary

RM-5. Rangeland Improvements

RM-6. Vegetation Treatments

McGregor Range

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

Mc/G-1. Forage Utilization

Mc/G-2. Competitive Bidding

Mc/G-3. Season of Use

Mc/G-4. Class of Livestock

Mc/G-5-Mc/G-9. Rangeland Improvements

Mc/G-10. Wildlife Water

Mc/G-11. No Grazing Area

Mc/G-12. Maintenance Responsibility

Mc/G-13. Salt and Protein Placement

Mc/G-14. Livestock Redistribution

Mc/G-15. Monitoring Vegetation

Mc/G-16. Summer Grazing

WILD BURROS

Specific Decisions

WB-1. Adoption

WILDLIFE (Map 2-3)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

WL-1. Big Game Forage

WL-2. Riparian Habitat Area, Percha Creek

WL-3. Lake Holloman

WL-4. Pronghorn HMP, Alamo Mesa

WL-5. Deer HMP, Caballo Mountain

WL-6. Deer HMP, Sacramento Escarpment

WL-7. Riparian HMP

WL-8. Nutt and White Sands Pronghorn Herd Units

SOILS AND WATER RESOURCES (Map 2-4)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

W-1. Watershed Activity Plan, Wind and Chess Draws

W-2. Watershed Activity Plan, Moccasin and Otto Draws

W-3. Watershed Activity Plan, East of Tularosa and South of Tularosa River

W-4. Watershed Activity Plan, Three Rivers Watershed

W-5. Watershed Activity Plan, East of Crow Flats

W-6. Protection of Watershed Resources, McGregor Range

VEGETATION (Unit Wide)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

V-1. Study Plots

AIR QUALITY

General Management Guidance

CULTURAL RESOURCES (Map 2-4)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

C-1. Three Rivers Petroglyph Site and Picnic Area

C-2. Rattlesnake Hills Archaeological District

C-3. Alamo Mountain Petroglyphs Area

C-4. Lone Butte

C-5. Jarilla Mountains

C-6. Butterfield Trail

C-7. Jornada del Muerto Trail

C-8. 10 Percent Class II Cultural Resource Inventory

C-9. McGregor Range

RECREATION (Map 2-4)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

R-1. Caballo Peak

R-2. Cuchillo Mountains Pinyon Nut Area

R-3. Operation Respect Deer Hunt Patrol

R-4. ORV Designations

VISUAL RESOURCES (Map 2-4)

General Management Guidance

Specific Decisions

VR-1. Sacramento Escarpment ACEC

VR-2. Brokeoff Mountains

VR-3. Cornudas Mountains

VR-4. Cuchillo Mountains

WILDERNESS (Map 2-4)

General Management Guidance

FIRE MANAGEMENT

General Management Guidance

LANDS

General Management Guidance

Public land will be considered for disposal when (a) it has been determined the lands are no longer required for a Federal project or a resource management activity; (b) disposal of the lands will serve important public objectives; or (c) the lands are isolated and difficult to manage under present BLM standards. Disposal of the public land may be accomplished by sale, exchange, or Recreation and Public Purpose (R&PP) patent pursuant to applicable Federal authority, such as Section 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-579) or the R&PP Act (43 United States Code 869 et. seq.).

Items to be examined while considering the merits of any disposal or acquisition action include:

1. Consistency and Conformance
2. Threatened or Endangered Plant/Animal Species and Their Habitat
3. Wilderness Values
4. Prime and Unique Farmlands
5. Floodplain/Flood Hazard Evaluation
6. Cultural and Paleontological Resource Values
7. Visual Resources
8. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
9. Wetlands
10. Existing Rights and Uses
11. Controversy
12. Health and Safety
13. Mineral Resources
14. Adjacent Uses and Ownership

Additionally, for disposals or acquisitions by exchange, other items to be considered would include:

1. Is the exchange in the public interest?
2. Are the lands being offered of comparable value to the public land selected?

There is a general goal to consolidate public land holdings in a blocked-up pattern of land ownership. The areas shown on Map 2-1 are flexible and may be adjusted via disposals and acquisitions consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding dated October 3, 1984, between BLM and the New Mexico State Land Office, and subsequent documents. This would be done in order to allow BLM to efficiently carry out its management of the public land. Priorities for blocking up would include wilderness study areas, wildlife habitat, watersheds, land treatment areas, grazing administration, cultural values, and other resource considerations.

Other lands-related activities that may occur in addition to sales, exchanges, easement acquisitions, and R&PP patents include: the following.

Rights-of-Way

BLM grants utility and transportation rights-of-way (ROWs) leases, and permits to individuals, businesses, and governmental entities for the use of the public land. ROWs are issued to protect natural and cultural resources associated with the public land and adjacent lands. ROWs are also issued to promote the maximum utilization of existing ROWs, including joint use whenever possible. All ROWs actions are coordinated to the fullest extent possible, with Federal, State, and local government agencies, adjacent landowners, and interested individuals and groups. ROWs applications are analyzed on a case-by-case basis.

Public Land Withdrawals

It is the policy of the BLM to keep public land open for public use and enjoyment. However, there are conditions which may warrant the removal of certain public land from general use. Through withdrawal of this public land, the public safety is guaranteed and the protection of the special use is ensured. In an effort to keep as much of the public land open to the widest variety of uses, the BLM reviews existing withdrawals on a periodic basis. This review ensures that the reasons for the withdrawal are still valid and that the smallest acreage possible is retained in withdrawal status.

Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP)

Under the R&PP Act, BLM has the authority to lease or patent public land to governmental and non-profit entities for public parks, building sites, or other public purposes. Applications are processed under the requirement of NEPA and are subject to public review.

Other lands related activities that are necessary to accomplish BLM's mandated tasks will also be performed.

Specific Decisions

L-1. Review and take appropriate action on the following public water reserves (Map 2-1). (NOTE: Formerly, the wording was to "revoke" but current guidance in water resources changes the thrust of the old decisions carried forward from previous MFPs.)

a. T. 26 S., R. 10 E., Section 24 -- Dirt Tank, Section 4 Permit No. 1238.

b. T. 24 S., R. 15 E., Section 5 -- Well, Section 4 Permit No. 1721.

c. T. 26 S., R. 11 E., Section 26 -- Dirt Tank, Section 4 Permit No. 2097.

d. T. 18 S., R. 1 W., Section 24 -- Dirt Tank.

e. T. 15 S., R. 1 W., Section 34.

L-2. Initiate action to remove the restriction prohibiting subsurface use of lands used as impact areas on the old Air Force bombing and gunnery range not opened by Public Land Order 2569 (Map 2-1).

L-3. Consider for land tenure adjustment the following lands (184,000 acres)(23,000 to be acquired and 161,000 to be disposed)(Map 2-1):

- -- Isolated and difficult to manage parcels (Table 2-1).
- -- Lands needed for community expansion and public purposes.
- -- Lands where interest has been shown, including lands identified by the State of New Mexico for possible exchange.
- -- Potential exchange lands.
- -- Potential acquisition lands (23,000 acres) (Table 2-2).

Lands suitable for disposal will be considered for such public purpose values as community expansion and private sale. All forms of disposal will be considered, including exchanges. An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be made for each disposal action, on a site-by-site basis. All resource values will be considered during the EA process. No critical resources will be allowed to enter the private sector. New rangeland developments, vegetation treatments, and access will not be proposed in land tenure adjustment areas. Public land not identified for disposal will be retained in Federal ownership, except that within the retention areas, only those parcels which will enhance overall consolidation of public land will be considered for exchange.

TABLE 2-1
ISOLATED AND DIFFICULT TO MANAGE PARCELS

Parcel No.[a/] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
1 10 S 2 E 5	Lots 1 and 2, S1/2NE1/4 (less 2.5 acres) NW1/4SE1/4	198.43
2 10 S 4 W 1	Lots 2-4, SW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4	359.11
4 10 S 5 W 19	Lots 1-4, E1/2W1/2	322.40
9 11 S 5 W 28	SE1/4SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4	80

TABLE 2-1
ISOLATED AND DIFFICULT TO MANAGE PARCELS
(Continued)

Parcel No.[a]	Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
27	12 S 4 W 2	S1/2NE1/4	80
28	12 S 6 W 21	NW1/4NE1/4	40
40	13 S 4 W 22	Lot 3 (30.12)	30.12
44	13 S 6 W 10	SE1/4SW1/4	40
46	13 S 6 W 28	SE1/4NE1/4, SE1/4	200
47	13 S 6 W 33	W1/2NW1/4	80
51	14 S 2 W 33	NW1/4	160
52	14 S 3 W 4	Lot 4	44.54
53	14 S 3 W 6	Lot 5	50.30
54	15 S 4 W 6	Lots 4 and 5, W1/2NW1/4	80.77
55	14 S 5 W 12	SW1/4NE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4	80
56	14 S 6 W 6	Lot 7 (SW1/4SW1/4)	36.30
58	15 S 4 W 31	E1/2E1/2	160
59	15 S 5 W 35	S1/2	320

TABLE 2-1
ISOLATED AND DIFFICULT TO MANAGE PARCELS
(continued)

Parcel No.[a]	Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
59	15 S 5 W 36	SW1/4	160
63	16 S 6 W 15	SW1/4NW1/4	40
67	16 S 6 W 18	Lot 1	40.77
68	17 S 6 W 31	All	640
69	18 S 6 W 3	N1/2NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4	120
71	18 S 6 W 3	SE1/4	160
73	18 S 6 W 17	N1/2NE1/4	80
79	11 S 9 E 28	S1/2SW1/4	80
79	11 S 9 E 33	N1/2NW1/4	80
95	14 S 11 E 17	SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4	200
126	17 S 9 E 23	SW1/4SE1/4	40
126	17 S 9 E 26	N1/2NW1/4NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4NE1/4	40
0143	20 S 15 E 35	S1/2NE1/4, SE1/4	240
153	21 S 14 E 12	SE1/4NE1/4, NE1/4SE1/4	80

TABLE 2-1
ISOLATED AND DIFFICULT TO MANAGE PARCELS
(continued)

Parcel No.[a] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
155		
22 S 14 E 5	All	638.40
156		
22 S 13 E 22	S1/2NE1/4, SE1/4	240
157		
23 S 12 E 13	E1/2NE1/4, NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4	360
157		
23 S 12 E 14	N1/2S1/2	160
158		
24 S 20 E 33	S1/2SE1/4	80
159		
25 S 20 E 12	NE1/4, E1/2W1/2, N1/2SE1/4	400
164		
26 S 18 E 27	SW1/4	160
173		
26 S 15 E 13	NE1/4NE1/4	40
174		
26 S 14 E 21	S1/2	320
174		
26 S 13 E 20	E1/2	320
175[b]		
16 S 5 W 14	SE1/2SE1/4SE1/4NE1/4	5
178[b]		
17 S 6 W 19	Lots 1-3, E1/2W1/2	284.51
179[b]		
17 S 6 W 30	Lots 2 and 3, E1/2NW1/4	163.80
180[b]		
18 S 6 W 8	SE1/4	160

TABLE 2-1
ISOLATED AND DIFFICULT TO MANAGE PARCELS
(concluded)

Parcel No.[a] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
181[b]		
18 S 6 W 9	W1/2SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4	160
182[b]		
18 S 6 W 15	NW1/4NE1/4, N1/2NW1/4	120
183[b]		
18 S 6 W 17	E1/2SE1/4	80

Notes: [a] These numbers correspond to those on Lands Overlay No. 2 located in the White Sands Resource Area Office.

[b] Identified in previous plans.

TABLE 2-2
POTENTIAL ACQUISITION LANDS

Parcel No.[a] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
WATERSHED TREATMENT AREAS		
Area 1 -- Three Rivers Watershed (North of Tularosa)		
10 S 8 E 1	SW1/4	160
10 S 8 E 2	SE1/4SW1/4	40
10 S 8 E 11	NE1/4, N1/2SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4	320
10 S 8 E 12	S1/2SW1/4	80
10 S 8 E 13	N1/2NW1/4	80
10 S 8 E 14	N1/2, SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4	520

TABLE 2-2
POTENTIAL ACQUISITION LANDS
(continued)

Parcel No.[a] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
10 S 8 E 15	SE1/4NE1/4, SE1/4	200
10 S 8 E 22	NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4	320
10 S 8 E 23	N1/2NW1/4	80
10 S 8 E 36	All	640
10 S 9 E 4	N1/2SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4	200
10 S 9 E 5	S1/2	320
10 S 9 E 6	SW1/4	160
10 S 9 E 7	N1/2	320
10 S 9 E 8	N1/2	320
10 S 9 E 9	N1/2NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, NW1/4SW1/4	200
10 S 9 E 16	All	640
10 S 9 E 32	All	640
11 S 9 E 2	Lots 1-4	52
11 S 9 E 16	All	640
11 S 9 E 22	NE1/4SE1/4	40
11 S 9 E 27	NW1/4NW1/4	40
11 S 91/2 E 16	All	640
TOTAL		6,652

Area 2 -- Unnamed Watersheds East of Tularosa and South of Tularosa River

TABLE 2-2
POTENTIAL ACQUISITION LANDS
(continued)

Parcel No.[a] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
14 S 10 E 13	NE1/4, S1/2NW1/4	240
14 S 10 E 14	NE1/4SW1/4	40
14 S 10 E 27	NW1/4SE1/4, NE1/4SW1/4	80
14 S 10 E 27	S1/2NE1/4, S1/2SE1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, S1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4	320
14 S 10 E 36	All	640
14 S 11 E 16	W1/2, SW1/4	480
14 S 11 E 17	S1/2NW1/4, E1/2NE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4	320
14 S 11 E 17	NW1/4NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4	80
14 S 11 E 18	Lots 1-6	213.17
14 S 11 E 18	Lots 7-12, E1/2	532.71
14 S 11 E 19	E1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4, E1/2NE1/4	200
14 S 11 E 20	W1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4	200
14 S 11 E 20	SE1/4NW1/4, NE1/4, SW1/4, N1/2SE1/4	440
14 S 11 E 21	NW1/4NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4	80

TABLE 2-2
POTENTIAL ACQUISITION LANDS
(continued)

Parcel No.[a/] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
14 S 11 E 29	N1/2NW1/4	160
14 S 11 E 30	Lots 1-2, 4, 5, 8-11	291.07
14 S 11 E 31	Lot 3	25.87
14 S 11 E 32	All	640
15 S 10 E 2	All	640
15 S 11 E 4	NW1/4	160
TOTAL		5,782.82

Area 3 -- Moccasin and Otto Draws (Southeast of Pinyon)

20 S 14 E 36	SW1/4SW1/4	40
21 S 14 E 1	Lots 5-8, 12, W1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4	400
21 S 14 E 2	All	640
21 S 14 E 11	NE1/4	160
21 S 14 E 12	W1/2NE1/4, NE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4	400
21 S 14 E 13	N1/2NE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4, NE1/4SW1/4	280
21 S 14 E 14	S1/2SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4	160
21 S 14 E 23	N1/2NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4	120

TABLE 2-2
POTENTIAL ACQUISITION LANDS
(continued)

Parcel No.[a/] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
21 S 14 E 24	NW1/4, E1/2NE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4	360
21 S 14 E 25	N1/2SE1/4	80
21 S 14 E 36	N1/2	320
21 S 15 E 5	Lot 12, W1/2SW1/4	120
21 S 15 E 6	Lot 14, SE1/4SW1/4	75.91
21 S 15 E 7	Lot 4, SE1/4SW1/4, N1/2NE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, NE1/4NW1/4	235.83
21 S 15 E 8	W1/2NE1/4, SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4	360
21 S 15 E 17	W1/2	320
21 S 15 E 18	N1/2NE1/4, N1/2NW1/4, S1/2SW1/4	240
21 S 15 E 20	E1/2NW1/4	80
21 S 15 E 29	S1/2NW1/2	80
21 S 15 E 30	Lots 1-3, S1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, E1/2SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4	387.77
21 S 15 E 31	N1/2NE1/4	80
21 S 15 E 32	NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4	240
TOTAL		5,179.51

Area 4 -- Wind and Chess Draws (Cornudas Mountains)

TABLE 2-2
POTENTIAL ACQUISITION LANDS
(continued)

Parcel No.[a] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
25 S 14 E 36	All	640
25 S 15 E 32	W1/2SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4	160
26 S 14 E 2	All	640
26 S 14 E 16	All	640
26 S 14 E 25	NW1/4	160
26 S 14 E 36	N1/2	320
26 S 15 E 5	SW1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, NE1/4SW1/4	160
26 S 15 E 16	All	640
26 S 15 E 32	N1/2	320
TOTAL		3,680
Area 5 -- East of Crow Flats		
24 S 18 E 36	E1/2	320
24 S 19 E 32	W1/2	320
25 S 19 E 32	All	640
26 S 19 E 16	NW1/4	160
TOTAL		1,440
THREE RIVERS PETROGLYPH SITE		
Area 6		
11 S 91/2 E 21	SE1/4SE1/4	40
11 S 91/2 E 28	N1/2NE1/4	80
TOTAL		120

TABLE 2-2
POTENTIAL ACQUISITION LANDS
(concluded)

Parcel No.[a] Township/Range/Section	Subdivision	Acres
SACRAMENTO ESCARPMENT AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN		
Area 7		
17 S 10 E 8	NE1/4SE1/4	40
17 S 10 E 20	NW1/4SE1/4	40
TOTAL		80

Note: [a] These numbers correspond to those on Overlay 2 located in the White Sands Resource Area Office.

ACCESS

General Management Guidance

Road maintenance and easement acquisition will continue to be conducted in support of resource management objectives, subject to available funds. Roads or trails will be constructed only where existing roads and trails could not be used or where off-road travel is not possible because of topography or terrain. Construction, maintenance, and easement acquisition requirements and priorities will be determined on a yearly basis, as a part of the annual work planning process.

Specific road construction and maintenance standards will be determined on a case-by-case basis, dependent upon resource management needs; user safety; impacts to environmental values (including but not limited to wildlife habitat, soil stability, recreation, and scenery); and construction and maintenance costs. Transportation plans will be developed on a county-by-county basis in the next few years. Support for access actions would include cadastral survey and appraisals.

Specific Decisions

A-1. In order to accommodate more than the minimum necessary to meet the BLM's multiple-use responsibilities, legal access will be provided to most of those public lands which currently have none, and roads will be provided across most of those public lands which currently have none.

This will be accomplished by acquiring easements on 36 miles of existing non-Federal roads (of which, 16 miles will be improved to include grading and drainage). In addition, 238 miles of new roads will be constructed (of which, 70 miles will be built to primary road standards, and 168 miles built to secondary road standards). If new road construction crosses State or private lands, easements would need to be acquired in those areas (Map 2-1).

MINERALS

Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Leasing

General Management Guidance

Oil, gas, and geothermal leasing in the Resource Area was analyzed in a programmatic EA completed in 1981. In general, public land is available for oil and gas and geothermal leasing. Usually, leases will be issued with only standard stipulations attached. Some situations require that leases have special stipulations attached to protect sensitive resource values. In highly sensitive areas where special stipulations are not sufficient to protect important resource values, no surface occupancy stipulations will be attached to the lease or leasing will not be allowed. Oil and gas and geothermal drilling is evaluated on a case-by-case basis through the EA process.

All of the special oil and gas and geothermal lease stipulations that are currently (as of November 1984) being used in the WSRA are listed in the Specific Decisions section. The areas described in the lease stipulations are shown on Map 2-2 and on the oil and gas and geothermal leasing stipulations overlays located in the WSRA Office.

Most of the oil and gas and geothermal lease stipulations were developed from a regional leasing EA that was completed in September 1981. The EA, entitled "Environmental Assessment--Oil and Gas and Geothermal Leasing in the White Sands Resource Area," No. NM-030-81-58, identified areas within the Resource Area where special protective stipulations were needed.

The only leasing stipulations not developed from the regional leasing EA were OGG-10 and OGG-2. OGG-10 was developed in May 1982, when the BLM New Mexico State Office initiated a Statewide project in which each District Office prepared a list of all lands which had (or needed) special leasing stipulations. These areas were then delineated on master title plats. Finally, copies of the written stipulations and master title plats were sent to the State Office to be used by the adjudication staff in processing lease applications. OGG-2 is the standard BLM wilderness leasing stipulation.

Specific Decisions

OGG-1. All or portions of the lands contained in this lease are located within the White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) Safety Evacuation Area and shall be evacuated on those days that missiles are to be fired. Prior to beginning exploration activities, the lessee shall contact the Corps of Engineers in Albuquerque and the Master Planning Branch at WSMR in order to be advised of the terms of the safety evacuation agreement and missile firing schedules (Map 2-2).

OGG-2. By accepting this lease, the lessee acknowledges that the lands contained in this lease are being inventoried or evaluated for their wilderness potential by the BLM under Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 90 Stat. 2743 (43 USC Sec. 1782), and that exploration or production activities which are not in conformity with Section 603 may never be permitted. Expenditures in leases on which exploration drilling or production are not allowed will create no additional rights in the lease, and such leases will expire in accordance with law.

Activities will be permitted under the lease so long as BLM determines they will not impair

wilderness suitability. This will be the case either until the BLM wilderness inventory process has resulted in a final wilderness inventory decision that an area lacks wilderness characteristics, or in the case of a wilderness study area (WSA) until Congress has decided not to designate the lands included within this lease as wilderness. Activities will be considered nonimpairing if the BLM determines that they meet each of the following three criteria:

a. It is temporary. This means that the use or activity may continue until the time when it must be terminated in order to meet the reclamation requirement of paragraphs (b) and (c) below. A temporary use that creates no new surface disturbance may continue unless Congress designates the area as wilderness, so long as it can easily and immediately be terminated at that time, if necessary to management of the area as wilderness.

b. Any temporary impacts caused by the activity must, at a minimum, be capable of being reclaimed to a condition of being substantially unnoticeable in the WSA (or inventory unit) as a whole by the time the Secretary of the Interior is scheduled to send his recommendations on that area to the President, and the operator will be required to reclaim the impacts to that standard by that date. If the wilderness study is postponed, the reclamation deadline will be extended accordingly. If the wilderness study is accelerated, the reclamation deadline will not be changed. A full schedule of wilderness studies will be developed by the Department upon completion of the intensive wilderness inventory. In the meantime, in areas not yet scheduled for wilderness study, the reclamation will be scheduled for completion within 4 years after approval of the activity. (Obviously, if and when the Interim Management Policy ceases to apply to an inventory unit dropped from wilderness review following a final wilderness inventory decision of the BLM State Director, the reclamation deadline previously specified will cease to apply.) The Secretary's schedule for transmitting his recommendations to the President will not be changed as a result of any unexpected inability to complete the reclamation by the specified date, and such inability will not constrain the Secretary's recommendation with respect to the area's suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness.

The reclamation will, to the extent practicable, be done while the activity is in progress. Reclamation will include the complete recontouring of all cuts and fills to blend with the natural topography, the replacement of topsoil, and the restoration of plant cover at least to the point where natural succession is occurring. Plant cover will be restored by means of reseeding or replanting, using species previously occurring in the area. If necessary, irrigation will be required. The reclamation schedule will be based on conservative assumptions with regard to growing conditions, so as to ensure that the reclamation will be complete, and the impacts will be substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole, by the time the Secretary is scheduled to send his recommendations to the President. ("Substantially unnoticeable" is defined in Appendix F of the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands under Wilderness Review.)

c. When the activity is terminated, and after any needed reclamation is complete, the area's wilderness values must not have been degraded so far, compared with the area's values for other purposes, as to significantly constrain the Secretary's recommendation with respect to the area's suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness. The wilderness values to be considered are those mentioned in section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act, including naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or for primitive and unconfined recreation, and ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

If all or any part of the area included within the leasehold estate is formally designated by Congress as wilderness, exploration and development operations taking place or to take place on that part of the lease will remain subject to the requirements of this stipulation, except as modified by the Act of Congress designating the land as wilderness. If Congress does not specify in such act how existing leases like this one will be managed,

then the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 will apply, as implemented by rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of the Interior.

Lands to which this stipulation applies are described as follows (Map 2-2):

WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS

Jornada del Muerto WSA

T. 10 S., R. 1 E., NMPM
- Section 1: All (except the road leading through the lava flow)
- Section 2: All
- Section 3: All
- Section 10: All
- Section 11: All
- Section 12: All (except that portion southeast of the ranch road)
- Section 13: Only that portion north of the ranch road
- Section 14: Only that portion north of the ranch road
- Section 15: Only that portion north of the ranch road

T. 10 S., R. 2 E., NMPM
- Section 5: Lot 4, SW1/4NW1/4, and that portion north of the ranch road in the NW1/4SW1/4
- Section 6: Only that portion northwest of the ranch road except for the road leading through the lava flow
- Section 7: Only that portion northwest of the ranch road except for the ranch road leading through the lava flow

Brokeoff Mountains WSA

T. 24 S., R. 19 E., NMPM
- Section 20: E1/2W1/2, E1/2
- Section 21: All (except that portion northeast of the ranch road)
- Section 22: Only that portion southwest of the ranch road
- Section 27: All (except that portion east of the ranch road)
- Section 28: All
- Section 29: E1/2W1/2, E1/2
- Section 33: All
- Section 34: All (except that portion northeast of the ranch road)
- Section 35: Only that portion southwest of the ranch road

T. 25 S., R. 19 E., NMPM
- Section 1: Only that portion south and west of the ranch road
- Section 3: All (except the ranch road entering from the east)
- Section 4: All
- Section 5: All
- Section 8: All
- Section 9: All
- Section 10: All
- Section 11: All (except the ranch road entering from the north)
- Section 12: Only that portion north and west of the ranch roads
- Section 13: Only those portions west of the ranch road in S1/2N1/2 and S1/2
- Section 14: NW1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4, S1/2SW1/4, SE1/4
- Section 15: N1/2, SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4, SE1/4SE1/4
- Section 17: All
- Section 20: All
- Section 22: All
- Section 23: N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4, NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4, SE1/4
- Section 24: All
- Section 25: E1/2, SE1/4, NW1/4 (those portions east of the ranch road), NW1/4NW1/4 (that portion north of the ranch road)
- Section 26: N1/2NE1/4 (that portion north of the ranch road), NW1/4NW1/4, E1/2NW1/4 (that portion west of the ranch road), NW1/4SW1/4, S1/2S1/2
- Section 27: All
- Section 28: All (except the ranch road)
- Section 29: All (except that portion south of the ranch road)
- Section 33: All (except the ranch road)
- Section 34: All
- Section 35: All

T. 25 S., R. 20 E., NMPM
- Section 19: Only that portion west of the ranch road
- Section 30: Lots 1-4

Section 31: Lots 1-4

T. 26 S., R. 19 E., NMPM
Section 1: All
Section 3: All
Section 4: All
Section 5: E1/2E1/2
Section 8: E1/2NE1/4, NE1/4SE1/4 (that portion north of the ranch road)
Section 9: All (except that portion southwest of the ranch road)
Section 10: All
Section 11: All
Section 12: All
Section 13: All
Section 14: All
Section 15: N1/2, SE1/4
Section 23: E1/2
Section 24: All
Section 25: All
Section 26: E1/2

T. 26 S., R. 20 E., NMPM
Section 6: Lots 2-4
Section 7: Only that portion west of the ranch road
Section 18: All (except that portion northeast of the ranch road)
Section 19: All
Section 20: That portion west of the ranch road
Section 26: SE1/4SE1/4
Section 28: W1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4 (that portion west of the road)
Section 29: W1/2NE1/4 (that portion southwest of the ranch road), W1/2, SE1/4
Section 30: All
Section 31: All
Section 33: NW1/4NW1/4, Lot 1
Section 35: NE1/4NE1/4, Lot 1 (that portion east of the road), Lots 2-4

OGG-3. No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the following described lands is allowed in order to protect the existing communications sites on Caballo Mountain (Map 2-2):

T. 15 S., R. 4 W., NMPM
Section 26: SW1/4

OGG-4. No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the following described lands is allowed in order to protect their value as ecological study plots and demonstration areas (Map 2-2):

Engle Ecological Plot

T. 13 S., R. 2 W., NMPM
Section 35: NE1/4NE1/4

Cuchillo Ecological Plot

T. 12 S., R. 5 W., NMPM
Section 10: SE1/4
Sections 11 and 14: All

Nordstrom Ecological Plot

T. 16 S., R. 5 W., NMPM
Section 27: All
Section 28: E1/2
Section 33: N1/2NE1/4
Section 34: N1/2
Section 35: NW1/4NW1/4

Lee Ecological Plot

T. 23 S., R. 13 E., NMPM
Section 21: SE1/4NE1/4

Trujillo Ecological Plot

T. 12 S., R. 6 W., NMPM
Section 3: NW1/4SW1/4

Danley Ecological Plot

T. 13 S., R. 10 E., NMPM
Section 18: Lots 1-6

OGG-5. Vehicular use on all or portions of the lands contained in this lease is limited to existing roads and trails in order to prevent damage to cultural resources (in accordance with the Federal Register Notice of July 31, 1980--Rattlesnake Hill Limited ORV Designation). Exceptions may be granted when the lessee/operator submits a surface use and operations plan which is satisfactory to the authorized officer of the BLM, for the protection of cultural resources (Map 2-2).

T. 22 S., R. 8 E., NMPM
Section 22: SW1/4NW1/4, SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, S1/2SE1/4

Section 26: Lots 4, 5, and 9-12
Section 27: All
Section 28: All
Section 33: All
Section 34: Lots 1-15
Section 35: Lot 4

OGG-6. No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the following described lands (Rattlesnake Hills area) is allowed in order to protect sites listed on the State Register of Historic Places and sites nominated to the National Register of Historic Places (Map 2-2):

T. 22 S., R. 8 E., NMPM
Section 21: All

OGG-7. No drilling or storage facilities will be allowed within 500 feet of sites on the leased lands in the Alamo Mountain area which are listed on the State Register of Historic Places and sites proposed for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This distance may be modified when specifically approved in writing by the authorized officer of the BLM, with the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Officer (Map 2-2).

T. 26 S., R. 13 E., NMPM
Section 17: S1/2
Section 18: E1/2SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4
Section 19: E1/2

OGG-8. No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the following described lands is allowed in order to protect recreational opportunities along the Tularosa River (Map 2-2).

T. 13 S., R. 11 E., NMPM
Section 29: SW1/4SE1/4
Section 31: NW1/4SE1/4
Section 32: NE1/4NW1/4

OGG-9. No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the following described lands is allowed in order to protect the scenic quality of the Sacramento Escarpment (Maps 2-2 and 2-5)(see also Decision VR-1 and Map 2-4).

T. 17 S., R. 10 E., NMPM
Section 4: S1/2NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 5: E1/2SE1/4
Section 8: NE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4, S1/2SE1/4
Section 17: E1/2
Section 20: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4
Section 28: All
Section 29: E1/2NE1/4, NE1/4SE1/4
Section 33: N1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4

T. 18 S., R. 10 E., NMPM
Section 4: E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4 (unsurveyed partial section)
Section 9: E1/2, E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4
Section 35: E1/2

T. 19 S., R. 10 E., NMPM
Section 2: E1/2NE1/4, NW1/4NE1/4, N1/2SW1/4NE1/4N1/2NE1/4SE1/4

OGG-10. The lessee is given notice that all or part of the lease or patent areas contain special values, are needed for special purposes, or require special attention to prevent damage to surface resources. Any surface use or occupancy within such areas is strictly prohibited. Exceptions include (a) the lessee/operator demonstrates that the area is essential to adequately explore for or develop oil or gas, (b) the lessee/operator submits a surface use and operations plan, and (c) the surface management agency finds the proposed surface occupancy or use does not compromise the decision upon which the restriction is based or adversely affect the resources protected by the restriction.

Reason for Restriction: To protect recreation and public purposes facilities authorized under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.

Duration of Restriction: Year-round

Prior to acceptance of this stipulation, the prospective lessee is encouraged to contact the Federal surface management agency for further information regarding the restrictive nature of this stipulation (Map 2-2 and Table 2-3).

Locatable Minerals

General Management Guidance

Under the Mining Law of 1872, a person has the right to explore, develop, and produce minerals

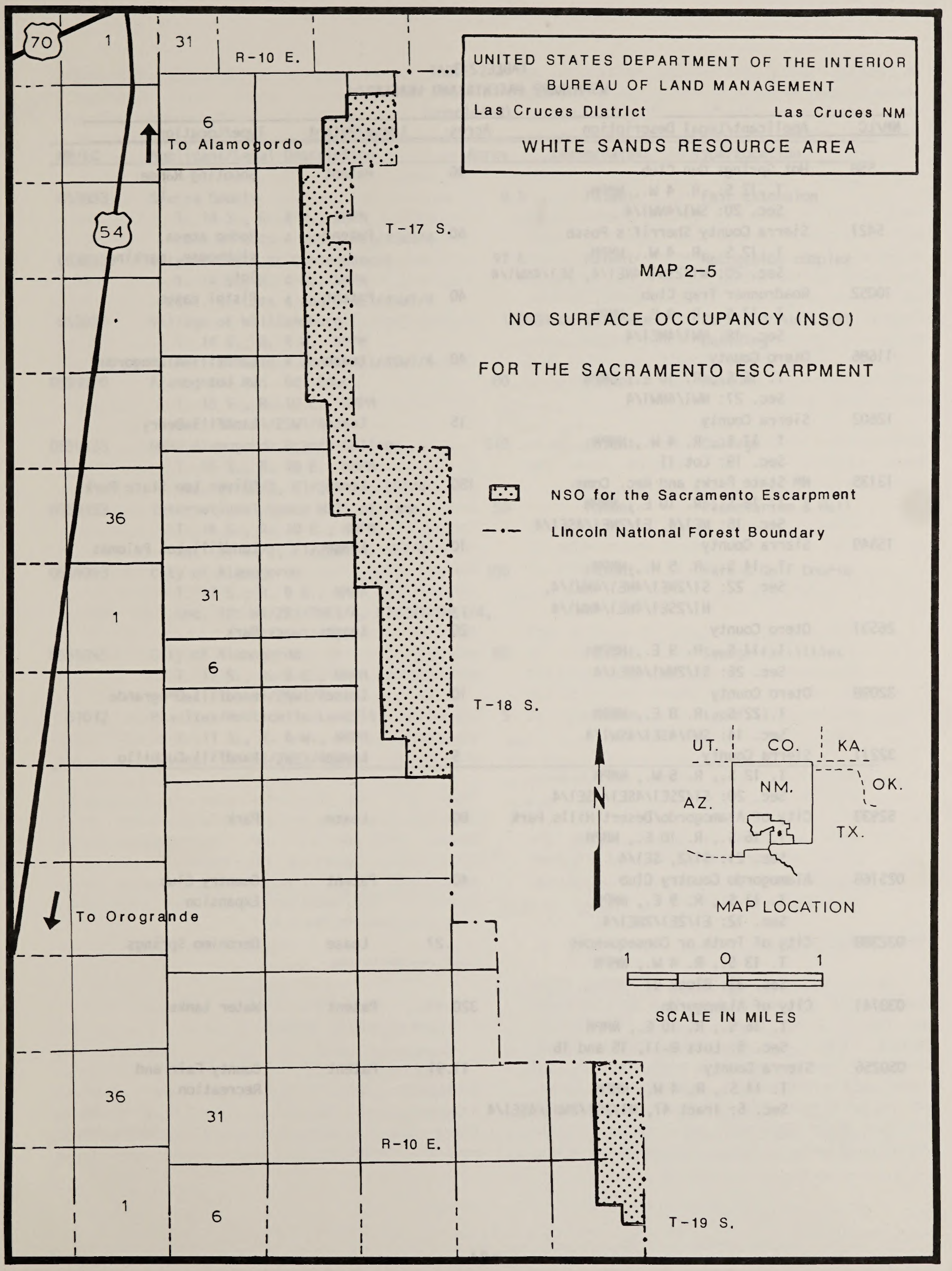
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Las Cruces District Las Cruces NM

WHITE SANDS RESOURCE AREA

MAP 2-5

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY (NSO)

FOR THE SACRAMENTO ESCARPMENT



Source: BLM Las Cruces District Files 1986.

TABLE 2-3
WSRA R&PP PATENTS AND LEASES

NM/LC	Applicant/Legal Description	Acres	Lease/Patent	Type/Location
558	Hot Springs Gun Club T. 12 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 20: SW1/4NW1/4 .	40	Patent	Shooting Range
5427	Sierra County Sherrif's Posse T. 12 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 20: W1/2SW1/4NE1/4, SE1/4NW1/4	60	Patent	Rodeo arena, clubhouse, parking lot
10052	Roadrunner Trap Club T. 17 S., R. 9 E., NMPM Sec. 18: NW1/4NE1/4	40	Patent	Pistol range
11686	Otero County T. 15 S., R. 10 E., NMPM Sec. 27: NW1/4NW1/4	40	Lease	Landfill-Alamogordo/ La Luz
12602	Sierra County T. 17 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 19: Lot 17	15	Lease	Landfill-Derry
13135	NM State Parks and Rec. Comm. T. 18 S., R. 10 E., NMPM Sec. 16: NE1/4, E1/2NE1/4SE1/4	180	Lease	Oliver Lee State Park
15549	Sierra County T. 14 S., R. 5 W., NMPM Sec. 22: S1/2NE1/4NE1/4NW1/4, N1/2SE1/4NE1/4NW1/4	10	Lease	Landfill-Las Palomas
26537	Otero County T. 17 S., R. 9 E., NMPM Sec. 26: S1/2NW1/4NE1/4	20	Lease	Park
32098	Otero County T. 22 S., R. 8 E., NMPM Sec. 14: SW1/4SE1/4SW1/4	10	Lease	Landfill-Orogrande
32277	Sierra County T. 12 S., R. 5 W., NMPM Sec. 20: S1/2SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4	5	Lease	Landfill-Cuchillo
52933	City of Alamogordo/Desert Hills Park T. 16 S., R. 10 E., NMPM Sec. 21: S1/2, SE1/4	80	Lease	Park
025768	Alamogordo Country Club T. 17 S., R. 9 E., NMPM Sec. 12: E1/2E1/2NE1/4	40	Patent	Country Club Expansion
032388	City of Truth or Consequences T. 13 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 33: Block 97	.27	Lease	Geronimo Springs
038741	City of Alamogordo T. 16 S., R. 10 E., NMPM Sec. 5: Lots 8-11, 15 and 16	320	Patent	Water tanks
050256	Sierra County T. 14 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 6: Tract 47, N1/2S1/2NW1/4SE1/4	11.91	Patent	County Fair and Recreation

TABLE 2-3
WSRA R&PP PATENTS AND LEASES
(concluded)

NM/LC	Applicant/Legal Description	Acres	Lease/Patent	Type/Location
053833	Sierra County T. 14 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 6: Lots 4 and 5 NE1/4SW1/4	8.5	Patent	Fair Extension
053833	City of Truth or Consequences T. 14 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 6: Lots 4 and 5 NE1/4SW1/4	97.6	Patent	Recreation complex
053833	Village of Williamsburg T. 14 S., R. 4 W., NMPM Sec. 6: Lots 4 and 5 NE1/4SW1/4	1.9883	Certificate	Park and Municipal Building
0558520	Alamogordo Mun. Bd. Educ. T. 15 S., R. 10 E., NMPM Sec. 34: W1/2SW1/4	80	Patent	Museum
0559133	NMSU Alamogordo Branch College T. 16 S., R. 10 E., NMPM Sec. 9: N1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4	510	Patent	College
0559133	International Space Hall of Fame T. 16 S., R. 10 E., NMPM Sec. 9: N1/2, E1/2SW1/4, SE1/4	50	Patent	Planetarium & Hall
0559393	City of Alamogordo T. 17 S., R. 9 E., NMPM Sec. 12: W1/2E1/2NE1/4, E1/2W1/2NE1/4, W1/2SW1/4NE1/4	100	Patent	Park & Golf Course
0559395	City of Alamogordo T. 17 S., R. 9 E., NMPM Sec. 15: N1/2NW1/4	80	Patent	Sewage facilities
57072	Placitas/Monticello Landfill T. 11 S., R. 6 W., NMPM Sec. 14: E1/2NE1/4SW1/4	5	Lease	Landfill

on public land. Unlike the management of leasable and saleable minerals where BLM has the authority to approve mining operations, locatable mineral activities are regulated by BLM only to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the lands.

Public land is generally open to mineral entry and development except for specific areas withdrawn from mineral location. These areas are noted on the master title plats available for review at the Las Cruces District Office. Mineral exploration, development, and production on public land is regulated under Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 3800 to prevent unnecessary and undue damage to the surface resources.

Examinations of mining claims to determine their validity may be initiated under the following conditions:

- where a mineral patent application has been filed and a field examination is necessary to determine the validity of the claim(s);
- where there is a conflict with a land disposal application, and it is determined to be in the public interest to do so, or where the statute authorizing the disposal requires clearance of any encumbrance;
- where the land is needed for a Federal program; or
- where a claim is located under the guise of the mining law and flagrant unauthorized use of the land or mineral resource is occurring.

Specific Decisions

LM-1. Lands have been withdrawn from execution of the public land laws by such means as Public Land Orders (PLOs), Secretarial Orders (SOs), and Executive Orders (EOs). Review of the master title plats reveals that lands were withdrawn for such uses as: Bureau of Reclamation's Rio Grande Project and the Elephant Butte Reservoir; the Federal Aviation Administration's Air Navigation Sites; protective withdrawals for ecological plots and demonstration areas; public water reserves; water power designation sites; water pumping stations and pipelines for the Air Force; an administrative site for the Forest Service; and the WSMR, Holloman Air Force Base, and Fort Bliss. Areas withdrawn from BLM administration for inclusion in the National Forest system are open for locatable minerals entry. Overlays showing specific withdrawal locations are available for review at the WSRA Office.

Mineral Materials

General Management Guidance

Applications for the removal of common variety mineral materials, including sand and gravel, outside of community pit areas, are processed on a case-by-case basis. Stipulations to protect important resource values are attached based on an interdisciplinary environmental review of each proposal, or, in the case of designated community pits, a one-time review of the pit area. Top soil will be stockpiled for reclamation purposes. The best method for reclamation will be determined for each specific site. A programmatic EA for mineral materials disposal in the Las Cruces District was prepared in 1979 (Number NM-030-80-7).

Community pits and common use areas are designated as the need arises. An EA will be prepared for each area.

There are two community pits for mineral materials presently designated in the WSRA. EA Number NM30-030-74-9 was the basis for establishing Community Pit Number 7 and EA Number NM30-030-74-11 established Community Pit Number 4. The locations of the two community pits are shown on Map 2-2.

Specific Decisions

MM-1. Needs for mineral materials will be based on public requests.

MM-2. Roads can be constructed by the permittees, applicants, or contractors upon approval from the BLM. The BLM will be responsible for access if it is to a common use area or a community pit.

Areas of Critical Mineral Potential

General Management Guidance

On December 3, 1982, the BLM published a call for nominations of "Areas of Critical Mineral Potential" (ACMP)(Federal Register pages 54557-8). This notice was clarified in the March 14, 1983, Federal Register (pages 10757-8). According to the guidelines set forth in these notices, an area may be nominated as an ACMP if it is managed by a Federal agency and either withdrawn from mineral entry, or administered as a de facto withdrawal. The nomination may be made on the basis of any mineral commodity, whether leasable, locatable, or saleable.

After a nomination is made, the BLM is responsible for evaluation and, if appropriate, designating the nominated area as an ACMP. The evaluation is used to assist BLM managers in making recommendations and decisions concerning these lands or, where the ACMPs are lands managed by other agencies, it is used to help BLM formulate an official response concerning the need for the withdrawal or restriction.

To date, five areas within the WSRA have been nominated and designated as ACMPs. These areas are on lands now withdrawn from mineral entry for military purposes, including parts of the WSMR, Fort Bliss Military Reservation, and McGregor Range. The involved lands are shown on Map 2-2 and on the ACMP overlay located in the WSRA Office.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

White Sands Resource Area (Except McGregor Range)

General Management Guidance

Allotment Categorization

All grazing allotments within the WSRA have been assigned to one of three management categories based on present conditions, potential for improvement, whether other resource conflicts exist, and opportunities that exist for positive economic return on public investments (Table 2-4).

Category M allotments generally are in satisfactory resource condition; Category I allotments generally have the potential to improve resource conditions and resolve resource conflicts; and Category C allotments generally have low resource production potential and are producing near their potential.

Allotment-Specific Management Actions for the Category I Allotments

Multiple-use management actions will be developed for each allotment in Category I and selected M allotments. Activity plans would be prepared within constraints set by the RMP to resolve resource conflicts where they occur. These activity plans would specifically define the following:

1. Identification of the resource conflict.

2. Management goals and objectives.

3. Level of grazing practices necessary to achieve the stated goals and objectives.

4. Planned rangeland improvements.

5. Method of evaluation.

The activity plan on an affected allotment would favor the development or enhancement of the significant values found to be in conflict with livestock grazing use. The significant values found within the area are:

1. Riparian areas;

2. Areas where threatened or endangered species (plants or animals) may occur.

3. Crucial mule deer or pronghorn habitat.

Grazing treatments would be incorporated into activity plans for Category I and selected Category M allotments to meet management objectives and goals established for each individual allotment. The grazing objectives would include, but would not be limited to, desired changes in species composition, improved rangeland and watershed condition, accommodation of physiological needs of plants, and to realize a beneficial return of dollars

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TABLE 2-4
MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES BY ALLOTMENT

Category I		Category M			Category C
6002	7034*	6001	6123	9026[a/]	6003
6004	7037	6005	6124	9027	6024
6012	7044	6006	6126	9028	6025
6017	7065*	6011	6127	9029[a/]	6038
6018*	7066*	6013	6128	9030[a/]	6045
6019	7080*	6014	6129	9031[a/]	6046
6020	9005	6015	6130	9033	6070
6021*	9006*	6028	6131	9041	6071
6022	9008	6029	6132	9043	6088
6026	9010	6030	6133	9047[a/]	6099
6027	9011	6031	6134	9048	6100
6037	9016	6033	6135	9053[a/]	6111
6039	9020	6034	6136	9054	6112
6041	9021	6040	6137	9055[a/]	6140
6042	9023	6043	6138	9057	6142
6048	9032	6044	7003[a/]	9060	7015
6049	9035	6047	7005[a/]	9061	7017
6050	9036	6051	7033[a/]	9063[a/]	7019
6053	9037	6057	7035	9064[a/]	7020
6054	9038	6058	7039	9065	7028
6055	9039	6060	7050[a/]	9066	7029
6056	9040	6065	7051[a/]	TOTAL 119	7049
6059	9042	6073	7052		7055
6063	9044	6076	7054		7063
6064	9045	6077	7056[a/]		Total 24
6066	9046	6078	7057		
6067	9049	6082	7067[a/]		
6068	9050*	6086	7068[a/]		
6072*	9051	6087	7069		
6074*	9052	6090	7072		
6075	9056	6091	7074		
6079	9058	6093	7075		
6080	9059	6095	7081		
6081	9062	6096	9001[a/]		
6083	9067	6097	9002[a/]		
6085	TOTAL 84	6098	9003[a/]		
6089*		6101	9004		
6094		6102	9007		
6110*		6103	9009[a/]		
6113		6106	9012[a/]		
6141		6109	9013[a/]		
6147*		6114	9014[a/]		
6149*		6115	9015		
7012		6116	9017		
7013		6117	9018[a/]		
7014		6119	9019		
7022*		6120	9022		
7030*		6121	9024		
7031		6122	9025		

Notes: *Indicates allotments with Allotment Management Plans.
[a/] These allotments were analyzed with the Category I allotments because of the presence of wildlife.

expended in achieving the overall management objectives.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adjustment

Initial stocking rates are based upon the best data currently available. Close monitoring of grazing systems and progression toward improvement are needed for BLM to be able to make periodic adjustments. A monitoring program will be established to determine whether the goals and objectives of the RMP are being effectively achieved under current management. When undesirable and unintended changes in resource values are discovered and the causes are determined, corrective action will be taken. The Final Grazing Management Policy and technical references 4400-1, 4400-2, 4400-3, and 4400-7 (1984) discuss the applications of rangeland monitoring in more detail.

Monitoring of the rangeland management program would be necessary to determine the correct livestock grazing capacity, the effectiveness of the grazing treatments, and the effectiveness of the vegetation treatments and other rangeland developments. During monitoring, permittees and other interested individuals and groups would be contacted and informed of the procedures which would be used in initiating the studies and would be invited to participate in the process.

As a minimum, the monitoring studies would be designed to collect data on actual livestock use, wildlife use, degree of key forage species utilization, climatic conditions, and rangeland ecological condition and trend. Proper forage utilization would vary depending on the key forage species and season of use; however, in no instance would it be more than 60 percent of the current year's growth. The number of allotments to be monitored and the number or frequency of studies per allotment would be determined primarily by BLM's budgetary constraints or limitations. The following criteria will be used to place allotments in priority order for the monitoring program:

1. Continuing or updating existing allotment management plan (AMP) studies.

2. Allotments with significant resource problems and where grazing use adjustments are likely to be needed.

3. Allotments with minimal or no resource problems but where actual use data are inadequate.

4. Allotments proposed for intensive management.

5. Allotments proposed for less intensive management.

Wildlife habitat monitoring would also be determined by budgetary constraints or limitations. The following is a list of situations, by priority in which habitats would be monitored.

1. Threatened or endangered species habitats with management problems.

2. Big game habitats under management plans.

3. Other habitats.

The detailed techniques to be used in the studies would vary depending on the data needed. The following techniques or variation thereof would be used to collect data for each critical element:

1. Actual Use
   a. Livestock counts
   b. Wildlife counts or pellet transects by habitat areas
   c. Records supplied by operator

2. Utilization of Key Forage Species
   a. Portable cages
   b. Permanent transects
   c. Temporary transects

3. Climatic Conditions
   a. Rain gauges
   b. U.S. Weather Bureau statistics

4. Rangeland Condition and Trend

    a. Exclosures
    b. Permanent photo points
    c. Browse transects
    d. Production plots
    e. Pace-point transects

Monitoring studies would be concurrent with grazing allocations proposed. Adjustments in livestock numbers due to drought or other emergencies would be accomplished under existing regulations and the BLM Manual Section 4400 guidelines. Monitoring studies would also be designed to measure wildlife populations and browse utilization.

If monitoring shows the management objectives are not being met, the cause would be determined and corrective action would be taken. In allotments where monitoring shows an overall increase in forage production, additional livestock use may be authorized consistent with other resource needs. The increased grazing use would be authorized as a temporary increase until monitoring studies confirm the increase on a sustained basis. After increased forage for livestock has been confirmed, the increase may be added to the permittee's active preference.

During periods of drought (documented by precipitation data) or other emergencies such as fire, adjustment in livestock numbers would be made to protect the vegetal-soil resource. Whenever adjustments were needed, the permittees would be contacted and an attempt would be made to arrive at mutually agreed upon adjustments. If this were not possible, then needed adjustments would be put into effect by BLM decision.

Livestock Use Adjustments

Livestock use adjustments are most often made by changing one or more of the following: the kind and class of livestock grazing the allotment, the season of use, the stocking rate, or the grazing pattern. Any future requests for changes in kind of livestock would be analyzed through EAs on an individual basis. While most livestock use adjustments will occur in Category I allotments, use adjustments may occur on allotments in Categories C and M, if resource conflicts arise.

In reviewing the estimated initial stocking rate and other recommended changes, it is emphasized that the proposed animal unit month (AUM) figures are not final stocking rates. Rather, all livestock use adjustments will be implemented through documented mutual agreement or by decision. When livestock use adjustments are implemented by decision, it will be based on livestock operator consultation, utilization, actual use, precipitation, and trend monitoring data. Current BLM Policy emphasizes the use of a systematic monitoring program to verify the need for livestock adjustments instead of using one-time inventory data.

The Federal regulations that govern changes in livestock forage provide specific direction for livestock use adjustments implemented by decision (43 CFR 4110.3-1, 43 CFR 4110.3-2, and 43 CFR 4110.3-3). The regulations specify that "permanent increases in the allocation of livestock forage or suspensions of preference shall be implemented over a 5-year period, unless after consultation with the affected permittees or lessees and other affected interests, an agreement is reached to implement the increase or suspension in less than 5 years."

After consultation, coordination, and cooperation, suspensions of preference shall be implemented through a documented agreement or by decision. If data acceptable to the BLM Area Manager are available, an initial reduction shall be taken on the effective date of the agreement or decision and the balance taken in the third and fifth years following the effective date. If data are not available to support an initial reduction, additional data will be collected through monitoring. Adjustments based on the additional data shall be implemented by agreement or decision that will initiate the 5-year implementation period.

The following procedures will be used for adjusting stocking rates and authorizing allowable grazing use on AMPs.

1. Determine carrying capacities based upon use of perennial forage production for each allotment.

2. The flexibility section of the AMP will establish the carrying capacity that can be allowed and will set the flexibility limits in which an annual application will not be required.

Grazing Practices

Grazing practices to be implemented will be developed in cooperation with the livestock operator and based on consideration of the following factors: allotment-specific management objectives; resource characteristics, including, but not limited to, soil and vegetation potential and water availability; other BLM management objectives; operator needs; and implementation costs.

On allotments with a high percentage of private and State lands, the AMPs will be cooperatively developed with the Soil Conservation Service (SCS). On allotments which have 50 percent or more public land, the BLM will do the planning; on allotments which have from 30 percent to 50 percent public land, the planning will be a joint effort between the BLM and the SCS; on allotments with less than 30 percent public land, the SCS will take the lead on planning.

Rangeland Improvements

The extent, location, and timing of rangeland improvements will be based on the allotment-specific management objectives adopted through the resource management planning process, interdisciplinary development and review of proposed actions, contributions from operators and others, and BLM funding capability.

All rangeland improvements for which funds are to be spent will be subjected to a benefit cost analysis, which will be used to develop a final priority ranking of allotments to commit the rangeland improvement funds that are needed to implement activity plans. The highest priority for implementation generally will be assigned to those improvements which have the highest benefit-cost ratio.

When rangeland improvements are constructed, BLM will adhere to procedures and design specifications to protect resources as mandated by laws, executive orders, regulations, manual requirements, and policies.

Livestock watering facilities, fences, and cattleguards constructed primarily for livestock management would be routinely maintained by permittees unless specific arrangements are made to the contrary. Nonstructural improvements will be maintained by the BLM. The permittee's obligation would be periodic inspections, routine maintenance, and reporting of major damage, malfunction, or complete system failure.

The need for fencing the silt trap constructed above the reservoir around all new stock tanks and appropriate water control structures will be determined for each structure on an individual case basis.

Escape ramps for birds and small mammals will be placed in open water storages and troughs located on public land. A water supply will be maintained yearlong in open steel storages and troughs for wildlife use where BLM controls the water source. When rangeland improvements are constructed through cooperative agreements and Section 4 permits to provide additional water, BLM will develop yearlong water for wildlife where possible.

Coordination with the watershed activity on the vegetation manipulation projects which will be planned and conducted by the watershed activity will take place to ensure that the projects are developed to meet the needs of the AMP as developed by the rangeland management activity.

Standard Operating Procedures

When rangeland improvements are constructed on public land, the BLM will adhere to procedures and design specifications to protect all resources. These are mandated through certain laws, executive orders, manual requirements, and policies. Prior to construction, site-specific EAs would be prepared to analyze the site-specific impacts from projects required for implementation of grazing management systems.

1. Roads or trails would be constructed only where existing roads and trails could not be used or when off-road travel is not possible (BLM Policy).

2. Disturbance of soil and vegetation at all project sites would be held to a minimum (BLM Policy and BLM Manual 6300).

3. Construction of fences would be in accordance with in BLM Manual Section 1737.

4. Areas where the soils would be disturbed would be reclaimed (BLM Policy).

5. A mixture of seeds of species adaptable to the area will be used where seeding is done following construction of rangeland development projects or vegetation treatments. The time and method of seeding prescribed by BLM standards will be used to achieve the best results for the intent of the seeding. A typical seed mixture which could be used on sandy loam sites within the lower elevations of the Resource Area is shown in Table 2-5. Other forb species will be considered if a good source is available. Livestock grazing will be excluded from all newly seeded areas for a minimum of two growing seasons to allow seedlings to become established. Grazing may be allowed between the first and second growing seasons. This would not apply to small areas such as pipelines.

TABLE 2-5
SEED MIXTURE

Species	Pounds of Seed Per Acre	
	Drilling	Broadcasting
Black grama	1 1/2	3
Four-wing saltbush	3 1/2	7
Sideoats grama	5	10
Lehmann lovegrass	1/8	1/4
Globemallow	1/4	1/2

6. Soil maps will be examined to determine areas where greatest impacts may occur, if construction projects are introduced. There are areas of steep slopes, soils in critical or severe erosion condition classes, or areas of inadequate ground cover (BLM Policy).

7. A threatened, endangered, State-listed, or sensitive species clearance will be conducted by BLM prior to the beginning of any project. If a "may affect" determination is made, consultation will be undertaken with the agency (Fish and Wildlife Service, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, or the New Mexico State Heritage Program) listing the species which may be affected. The results of the consultation will determine the course of action necessary to avoid adverse effects on listed species (Endangered Species Act and BLM Manual 6840).

8. During nesting season, a raptor inventory would be conducted on areas proposed for vegetation treatment to identify and flag land within a 1/4-mile radius of active nests so they would not be disturbed by the proposed treatment.

9. New or expanded grazing use and support facilities would be regulated so that impairment of suitability for designation of proposed Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) or crucial wildlife habitat would be evaluated and a decision made on a case-by-case basis.

10. Lands under wilderness review would be managed in a manner that would not impair the area's suitability as wilderness according to policy guidelines identified in BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Land Under Wilderness Review (1979; revised 1983).

11. Cultural resources will continue to be inventoried and evaluated prior to any undertaking which might affect eligible or potentially eligible cultural resources, in accordance with the consultation procedures outlined in 36 CFR 800 and the Statewide Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement (PMOA) among the BLM, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the State Historic Preservation Officer (NMSO-168).

12. Visual resource contrast ratings would be completed as part of site-specific EAs prior to construction of all proposed rangeland improvements and implementation of grazing management treatments (BLM Manual 8400). If appropriate, mitigating measures would be developed on a case-by-case basis.

13. All refuse would be removed from work areas on public land and be disposed of in approved sanitary landfills.

14. Where BLM controls the water sources, water would be made available to wildlife when livestock are off the allotments or pastures.

15. Escape ramps would be required in all water troughs and open storage tanks.

16. Several herbicides currently labeled and approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Mexico Department of Agriculture for use on rangelands in the State of New Mexico are proposed for use in controlling brush. The goal of these herbicide treatments is to decrease the target species, resulting in an increase in more desirable plant species. The four herbicides proposed for use are Dicamba (3,6-dichloro-o-anisic acid), Picloram (4-Amino-3,5,6-trichloropicolinic acid), Tebuthiuron (N-1/25-(1,1-dimethylethyl) -1, 3, 4-triadazol-2-yl]-N, N^{1}-dimethylurea), Triclopyr (3,5,6-Tricloro-2-pyridinyl-oxyacetic acid) or a combination of two or more of the above. The rate of application by herbicide and vegetation species is shown in Table 2-6.

The use of chemical herbicides will follow the vegetation treatments guidelines developed by the White Sands Resource Area. Chemical treatment will consist of applying approved chemicals to control target species of plants.

Before chemicals are applied, the BLM will meet or exceed EPA standards. All chemical applications will be preceded by an approved Pesticide Use Proposal. All applications of pesticides will be under the supervision of a certified pesticide applicator and will be carried out in compliance with the New Mexico pesticide laws. Dowco 290 is currently being evaluated by the State of New Mexico and could be used when and if labeled. If other herbicides effective on mesquite or creosotebush are approved prior to the proposed vegetation treatment, they would be considered for use.

TABLE 2-6

RATES OF APPLICATION FOR CHEMICAL HERBICIDES

Primary Species	Chemical	Rate of Application
Mesquite	Picloram and Dicamba	.25-1.50 lbs. AI/Ac
Mesquite	Triclopyr	4-8 qts. AI/Ac
Mesquite	Tebuthiuron	.50-1.25 lbs. AI/Ac
Creosotebush	Tebuthiuron	.50-.75 lb. AI/Ac

Note: AI/Ac -- Active ingredient per acre

All application rates of herbicides would be determined based on individual range sites and the conditions at the time of application. Deferral of livestock use would be in effect for a minimum of two growing seasons following brush control projects so vegetation may be reestablished. A site-specific EA including Threatened and Endangered clearances and cultural resource inventories would be prepared prior to vegetation treatments to determine the impacts. Directions for use, and precautions during use, would follow those set by the manufacturers of the herbicides.

17. Burning is proposed to reduce the amount of undesirable plant species on a site. Burning will normally be done during April-May or September-October, depending on the specific prescription written for each area, desired results, weather, and moisture conditions. Fire management plans will be developed within constraints established by the RMP before any prescribed burning occurs.

18. Interseeding consists of scalping a furrow to remove perennial and annual competition and seeding adapted, vigorously

competitive species in the center of the furrow. A seed dribbler used with a crawler tractor, small scalper/seeder, or range drill would be used to interseed strips. Broadcast seedings could be used as well. Species to be seeded would be selected to meet management objectives developed for a specific allotment.

Specific Decisions

RM-1. The initial livestock grazing use on all allotments would approximate the 5-year average (227,759 AUMs) and not exceed preference (249,163 AUMs)(Table 2-7). The average license use will be used for negotiating initial stocking rates on individual allotments. This use would be mutually agreed upon, if possible, between the permittee and BLM and could be up to preference.

RM-2. There are presently 16 allotments (364,901 acres) with existing AMPs approved prior to 1975 (Table 2-4). All allotments have been prescribed grazing systems; the management plans for these will continue.

RM-3. A rangeland monitoring program will be initiated on 109 allotments covering 1,534,058 acres that have a high potential for improvement and resolution of resource conflicts (Category I allotments) or improvement of wildlife habitat (selected Category M allotments) (Table 2-4). All allotments proposed for Category I and selected Category M allotments will be monitored for 5 years. The number and frequency of studies per allotment will be determined by local conditions and BLM's budgetary constraints. The monitoring studies would provide information to establish the proper stocking rates, grazing treatments, rangeland developments, and vegetation treatments necessary to properly manage the renewable resources of the Resource Area.

The remaining allotments proposed for Categories M and C will be inspected periodically to determine if resource conditions are changing.

RM-4. Following completion of the Final RMP, a Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) outlining the rangeland management program for Otero County will be written and distributed to the public. For the remaining Category M and C allotments where no changes in management or livestock numbers are anticipated, a letter or decision will be issued within 6 months after the RPS is issued. Before adverse decisions are made, each adversely affected permittee will be contacted and the "Section 8" Rangeland Consultation Policy will be followed. When adjustments are made through mutual agreement, they may be implemented once the RPS has been through a public review period. Subsequent information on the status of the rangeland management program for the WSRA will be contained in RPS updates published annually.

RM-5. Through land treatment projects (chemical, mechanical, and burning) on 241,576 acres, forage production will increase by 20,006 AUMs in the long-term. Seeding is planned for 1,597 acres (Table 2-8).

RM-6. It is estimated that the following rangeland developments will be constructed in the short-term: 142.9 miles of pipeline, 124.25 miles of fence, 34 wells with pumps or windmills, 36 storage tanks (20,000 gallons each), 148 drinking troughs, 16 dirt tanks, 74 erosion control dikes, and 1 catchment (Table 2-8).

McGregor Range

General Management Guidance

A rangeland management plan for the Co-Use portion of McGregor Range has been selected which includes implementation of an intensive grazing management system, a rangeland improvement program, and expanded monitoring. An intensive grazing management system has been developed to include flexible grazing seasons, periodic summer grazing, and some type of rotation grazing that provides periodic rest. This provides for the proper use of key forage species in relation to their phenological requirements.

The plan incorporates a number of design features which are listed below:

TABLE 2-7
SUMMARY OF EXISTING ALLOTMENT STATUS, ACREAGE, AND AUMS

County	Number of Allotments	No. of AMPs	Allotment Acreage			Present AUMs				
			Public	Other	Total	Total AUMs (Federal and Other)	Livestock Federal (Preference)	Controlled AUMs	5-Year Average	Big Game
Otero	105	8	950,936	439,960	1,390,976	290,653	147,916	142,737	135,261	15,528
Sierra	122	8	834,333	367,551	1,201,884	193,745	101,247	92,498	92,498	767
Total WSRA*	227	16	1,785,269	807,511	2,592,860	484,398	249,163	235,235	227,759	16,295

Note: *Does not include McGregor Range.

TABLE 2-8
RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS

Allotment Number	Pipeline (Miles)	Storage Tanks	Drinking Troughs	Fences (Miles)	Dikes	Dirt Tanks	Well Pump or Windmill	Water Catchment	Chemical Treatment (Acres)	Mechanical Treatment (Acres)	Prescribed Burn (Acres)
5001	1.5		2		4					146	
5002	2.5	2	5				1		3,205		
5017	3.5	2	4	16.5			1		11,711	773	
5019	10.5	2	13	5.25	2				18,599		
5020		1		8	8		1		23,221	3,734	
5022	6	3	7						19,731	1,439	
5026			1				1				
5027	1.75	1	2				1		2,440		
5033				3							
5037				3							
5039				3.5	7						
5041	3.5	1	7	2.5			1		3,959		
5042	.75				2				2,321		
5043					1						
5046						1	1				
5048	3.5	1	7				1				
5049		2	2				2				
5050	1		2				1		3,561		
5053	10	1	6			2	1		30,392	2,429	
5054	1	1	1						3,243	771	
5055									2,318		
5056	2.5		1						8,898		
5059	6.5	1	15	1.75	6				2,187		
5067	2		3		8				758		
5068	1.5		2			1			1,629		
5070		1	1				1		922		
5072	2.3		3								
5075	5.5		2						2,592		
5080	8.75	1	9						16,013		
5081	2.3		4			1	1		2,556		
5082	3		2	9	1						
5083	.25	1	1	3.5	10		1		1,814	243	
5085	1	1	1	1			1		688		
5091	3	1	4				1		2,889		
5093	.3		1	4.5							
5094						1					
5102						1			1,639	600	
5109				1.1							
5113	.25	1	3	1.25			1		3,032		
5140				1.9							
7005				1		1					
7012	1	1	2				1				
7014	1.5										
7031			1					1			
7033	.25	1	1	1							77
7037				2.25							

TABLE 2-8
RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS
(concluded)

Allotment Number	Pipeline (Miles)	Storage Tanks	Drinking Troughs	Fences (Miles)	Dikes	Dirt Tanks	Well or Windmill Pump	Water Catchment	Chemical Treatment (Acres)	Mechanical Treatment (Acres)	Prescribed Burn (Acres)
7050	4		4				2				
7051	6	3	4	4							
7055							1		1,780		
7056						1					
7067									304		
9001									1,688		
9002	1		1	2.75		1			1,399		
9003									640		105
9008	.25					1					
9009	1	1				1					
9010	1.50			4.25					7,985		
9012				1							
9013	1.25	1	1						1,282		
9026									2,629		
9031	5.75	3	4	4		1	2		2,500		
9035	2.5		1				1		9,525		1,719
9036	1.5		1	1.75			1				
9037	1.25		1						1,456		
9038	1.75		2								
9039	2.25		2			1					
9040	1.25		2	7.25					3,865		
9042				4	1						
9044	1			1.5			1				
9046	2.25								2,510		
9047	.75			2.5			1				
9049	1.75		1	.75					4,039		400
9050							1				
9051	4.25		4	.75							80
9052	.75		1								
9053	8.5		3	5			2		8,312		
9055	1		1			1			538		
9056		1		2.75					1,137		
9059				2.50							
9062				4.50							
9063	4	1		5			1		7,153		
TOTAL	142.9	36	148	124.25	74	16	34	1	229,060	10,135	2,381

1. Roads or trails would be constructed only where existing roads and trails could not be used or when off-road travel is not possible (BLM Policy).

2. Archaeological clearance would be required for each project site before construction (Executive Order 11593; 36 CFR 800; Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement NMSO-168).

3. Threatened and endangered species survey and clearance would be required for each project site before construction (Endangered Species Act and BLM Manual 6840).

4. Disturbance of soil and vegetation at all project sites would be held to a minimum (BLM Policy and BLM Manual 6300).

5. Visual resource contrast ratings would be completed in the survey and design stage of all proposed developments (BLM Manual 8400), and appropriate mitigating measures would be implemented to meet the Visual Resource Management (VRM) class objectives for the area in which the action is located.

6. Areas where the soils would be disturbed would be restored to blend into the environment (BLM Policy).

7. Soil maps will be examined for on-site investigation to determine areas of greatest impacts if construction projects are introduced. There are areas of steep slopes, soils in critical or severe erosion condition classes, and areas of inadequate ground cover (BLM policy).

8. Construction of fences would be in accordance with BLM Manual 1737.

9. Water would be available for wildlife in all units during periods of rest (BLM Policy).

10. In any WSAs, management activities would be governed by BLM's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Land Under Wilderness Review (1979; revised 1983) and surface protection regulations (BLM Policy), which require that no action be taken which would detract from wilderness values.

11. Before construction of proposed rangeland improvements or placement of salt, BLM would prepare a site-specific EA to analyze environmental impacts. The assessment would encompass areas no less than 1/4 mile diameter from the center of the proposed construction site or salting location. Maintenance of major rangeland improvements would be the responsibility of BLM. Users would be required to obtain permission from BLM prior to any construction of improvements (BLM Policy).

12. Annual monitoring results would be used to determine pastures to be rested.

13. Where the objectives of the proposed action are not being met, vegetation manipulation by approved BLM methods may be attempted. Prior to such action an EA would be prepared (Las Cruces District Policy).

14. If the desired pattern of utilization is not being achieved by the development of new water facilities, cross fencing in some units may be necessary. Prior to such action, an EA would be prepared (Las Cruces District Policy).

Additional manpower will be required to implement the plan. BLM will hire a full-time range conservationist to manage grazing on McGregor. A total of 60 workmonths will be required to manage the program, compared to 50 workmonths at present. The annual income from grazing leases will continue to be used to fund program personnel and facility construction. It will take approximately 12 years to build all proposed improvements. After all of the improvements are constructed, BLM staff will re-evaluate the condition of the Co-Use area and determine whether additional facilities need to be replaced or constructed. If there is no need for the funds other than maintenance, income from grazing leases will be returned to the U.S. Treasury.

Monitoring will be undertaken to ensure that the plan accomplishes the stated objectives. Studies will focus on actual livestock grazing use, forage utilization, rangeland condition and trend, climatic conditions, and data on wildlife, including browse utilization and pellet count transects. Monitoring results will be used to determine the need for resting of pastures, rotation of access to water, or

adjustment of stocking levels. Where these components of the plan do not cause the objectives to be met, the plan would be modified. Such modifications could include changes in the grazing use, season of use, additional rangeland developments, or any combination of these in order to attain the objectives. Modifications would require preparation of an EA before significant change would be affected.

Specific Decisions

BLM will increase forage utilization, construct new water supplies to improve livestock distribution, and make minor modifications to the existing management program to improve livestock distribution. Existing wildlife populations will benefit from the increased availability of water, and the more even distribution of livestock. The following actions will be taken over a 20-year period (from 1981 to 2000):

Mc/G-1. No more than 50 percent of key forage species will be utilized each year by all grazing animals.

Mc/G-2. The right to use livestock forage in a given pasture will continue to be determined by competitive bidding at public auction.

Mc/G-3. The livestock grazing season will continue to be from October 1 to June 30 (subject to the discretion of the BLM Area Manager).

Mc/G-4. Livestock grazing will continue to be limited to cattle and three horses per pasture.

Mc/G-5. Seventeen and one-half miles of existing pipelines will be replaced.

Mc/G-6. Thirty-eight and one-half miles of new pipelines will be constructed.

Mc/G-7. Nineteen wells, seventy-seven water troughs, thirty-nine water storage tanks, and five dirt tanks will be constructed.

Mc/G-8. Three corrals will be constructed.

Mc/G-9. Forty-seven and three-fourths miles of unimproved roads will be constructed, to provide access to water facilities. The roads will be suitable for fair weather travel by conventional vehicles.

Mc/G-10. As at present, water for wildlife will be provided year-round in each pasture.

Mc/G-11. As at present, no grazing will be allowed on the 244,000 acres of the Co-Use area.

Mc/G-12. BLM will continue to maintain and repair all grazing-related facilities, except that lessees will be responsible for maintenance of boundary fences and gates during the grazing season.

Mc/G-13. Lessees will be required to place salt and protein supplements at least 0.5 miles from water.

Mc/G-14. As necessary, BLM will cause livestock redistribution by rotating access to water supplies, provided that restricted supplies are not needed by wildlife.

Mc/G-15. Implementation of the plan will involve an extensive monitoring program. Results of the monitoring will be used to determine the need for the periodic resting of pastures or the adjustment of stocking levels.

Mc/G-16. Summer grazing will occur on some units to enable utilization of tobosa, sacaton, and other species which normally are not a primary forage resource, and in so doing, will reduce utilization of key forage species such as black grama.

WILD BURROS

Specific Decision

WB-1. The entire wild burro herd will be captured and made available for adoption.

WILDLIFE

General Management Guidance

Wildlife and wildlife habitat will continue to be considered and evaluated during site-specific planning for all types of projects. Such evaluations will include consultations with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) as provided in a Memorandum of Understanding dated October 1978. Stipulations developed through consultation with the NMDGF for each project will be attached to project authorizations to improve compatibility of projects with management objectives and guidance for wildlife and wildlife habitat. Habitat improvement projects will be implemented where necessary and as funded to maintain or improve habitat conditions. In most cases, such projects will be identified through Habitat Management Plans (HMPs), Coordinated Resource Management Plans (CRMPs), Sikes Act comprehensive plans, or other appropriate wildlife planning documents.

Forage will be provided for big game species on herd unit areas for present populations as established jointly with the NMDGF (Table 2-9). It is assumed that game cover requirements will be met by limiting utilization of vegetation to provide for the physiological needs of the plants. Any specific cover management needs will be addressed in activity plans.

Rangeland improvements will be designed to provide for wildlife needs. Livestock water developments will be designed to permit use and escape by wildlife species. Where BLM controls the water source, water will be available yearlong. New fences will be constructed according to the guidance contained in New Mexico State Office Manual Supplement 1737 and the BLM 1741 Manual Handbook for Fencing, dated May 1985, which includes designs to permit free movements of big game animals in occupied and historic ranges. Existing fences will be modified, as the need is identified in activity plans, to conform with New Mexico State Office Manual Supplement 1737.

Vegetation treatment projects will be designed to minimize impacts on wildlife and to improve habitat, especially for pronghorn, whenever project and wildlife objectives are compatible. During nesting season, a raptor inventory will be conducted on areas proposed for vegetation treatment to identify and flag land within a 1/4-mile radius of active nests so they will not be disturbed by the proposed treatment.

Animal damage control activities will be established in an annual plan completed for the Las Cruces District. The District Animal Damage Control Plan includes rodent and predator control activities conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

The policy given in Manual 6740--Wetland-Riparian Area Protection and Management will provide the basis for management of all riparian areas.

Arroyos and their associated vegetation should receive special consideration and protection to maintain them in their existing condition. Water control structures will be allowed if it is determined that these structures are needed. Coordination will be required with the watershed activity as to location of needed structures.

Seasonal restrictions are sometimes necessary for site-specific activities, such as not allowing an action to occur within a specific area during raptor nesting season. These restrictions are determined on a case-by-case basis and could consist of not allowing motor vehicles within 1/4-mile of raptor nests, for example.

The NMDGF, the New Mexico Heritage Program, and the USFWS will be consulted prior to implementing projects that may affect listed species or their habitat. These consultations will be conducted according to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and management policy and guidelines. Management activities in habitat for threatened, endangered, or sensitive species will be designed to benefit those species, or at least minimize any potential adverse influence of the activity on the species. Listed species which occur within HMP areas, and for which management needs are known, will be included in the HMP as a featured species.

Specific Decisions

WL-1. Big game forage use (Table 2-9):

Sierra County. Provide forage for 354 deer which presently utilize habitats within the County. Provide forage for a projected population increase of an estimated 261 deer by the year 2010. In addition, provide forage for 195 pronghorn which presently utilize habitat within the County. Provide forage for an estimated addition of 475 pronghorn. The forage provided will be dependent on the amount and success of the vegetation treatment described in decision RM-5.

Otero County (except McGregor Range). Forage will be provided for 12,588 mule deer and 1,666 pronghorn (optimum numbers) in herd unit areas in the long-term (30,234 and 2,582 AUMs, respectively, for a total of 33,086 AUMs). This will be an increase from the current 5,955 mule deer (14,281 AUMs) and 731 pronghorn (1,247 AUMs).

McGregor Range. Present deer numbers will increase from an estimated 3,700 to 5,000 and present pronghorn numbers from an estimated 250 to 700 by the year 1992.

WL-2. Improve and protect the riparian area along Percha Creek (280 acres) for wildlife habitat, watershed values, recreation, and visual quality. Monitor riparian habitat condition and develop management objectives and planned actions for a HMP. Limit off-road vehicle (ORV) use to existing roads and trails (Map 2-3).

WL-3. Improve and protect Lake Holloman and adjacent lands (1,160 acres) as a high use area for waterfowl and shore birds. Eliminate livestock grazing (Map 2-3).

Habitat management proposals and subsequent plans and agreements will be coordinated with Holloman Air Force Base through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NMDGF, USFWS, and other interest groups.

WL-4. A HMP (or a CRMP) will be developed for the Alamo Mesa pronghorn area. The primary objective of the HMP will be to provide adequate habitat for pronghorn. A monitoring program will be established to ensure that objectives are met (Map 2-3).

WL-5. A HMP (or a CRMP) will be developed for the Caballo Mountain deer area. The primary objective of the HMP will be to provide adequate habitat for mule deer. A monitoring program will be established to ensure that objectives are met (Map 2-3).

WL-6. A HMP (or a CRMP) will be developed for the Sacramento Escarpment deer area. The primary objective of the HMP will be to provide adequate habitat for mule deer. A monitoring program will be established to ensure that objectives are met (Map 2-3).

WL-7. Additional HMPs are being considered for approximately 844 acres of riparian habitat within the Resource Area which are located primarily north of Alamogordo in Otero County and along Percha Creek in Sierra County. Exact locations are shown on maps available in the WSRA Office. The objective would be to enhance riparian areas (Map 2-3).

WL-8. In coordination with the NMDGF, conduct studies to determine what biological factors are limiting the distribution and numbers of pronghorn in habitats in the Nutt and White Sands herd units (Jornada Plain) (Map 2-3).

SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES

General Management Guidance

Soils will be managed to maintain productivity and minimize erosion and stablize the resources. Current soils information will be obtained when necessary to support the various planning and multiple-use management activities.

Management activities in areas of high erosion potential will be designed to minimize surface disturbance to the extent possible. In addition, areas of soil disturbance will be reclaimed.

Soils management will include coordination with the related programs of State, local, and other Federal agencies.

TABLE 2-9
BIG GAME FORAGE BY ALLOTMENT

Allotment	Name	Public Acres	Other Acres	Total Acres	Present Required AUMs	Optimum AUMs	Big Game[a] Proportions	
6001	Crockett Ranch	4,354	600	4,954	16[b]	18[c]	D	
6012	Canada de la Cruz	2,231	40	2,271	4	8		A
6017	Buckhorn	33,633	6,214	39,847	31	115	D26%	A74%
6018	Caballo Mountain	25,982	8,462	34,444	46	53	D	
6019	GYP Hills	25,731	4,260	29,991	21	60		A
6020	Bar Cross	77,541	29,520	107,061	24	94		A
6021	Engle Ranch	36,991	28,184	65,175	16	45		A
6022	Lewis Cain Ranch	47,046	16,173	63,759	10	40		A
6030	Los Alamitos	1,120	460	1,580	4	9		A
6033	Turkey Creek	4,476	11,182	15,658	12	72	D	
6037	Pitchfork	2,769	1,729	4,498	20	62	D	
6043	Nutt Mountain	7,346	8,448	15,794	13	22		A
6044	L7 Ranch	1,160	0	1,160	0	1		A
6049	Longbottom Canyon	17,316	3,372	20,688	21	24	D	
6053	Flat Lake	81,225	16,190	97,415	64	106	D34%	A66%
6056	McClenan Ranch	21,474	7,388	28,862	2	6	A	
6067	Mescal Spring Ranch	22,200	4,835	27,035	227	263	D	
6070	Interstate Ranch	1,018	210	1,228	5	10		A
6072	Double Arrow Ranch	5,867	10,774	16,641	10	60	D99%	A1%
6073	Questa Blanca	434	477	911	4	9		A
6078	Chiz Ranch	483	3,504	3,987	1	6	D	
6079	Copper Flat Ranch	7,241	5,097	12,338	11	15	D	
6080	Pankey Land & Cattle	30,263	7,152	37,415	42	89		A
6082	Double S	9,855	16,174	26,029	7	48	D	
6089	Palomas Gap Ranch	8,744	3,791	12,535	16	19	D	
6090	Sherman Mountain	3,041	2,093	5,134	1	1	D	
6096	Questa Blanca Canyon	2,016	1,220	3,236	7	15		A
6098	44 Ranch	2,370	6,760	9,130	5	10		A
6101	Rancho de Maestro	1,154	150	1,304	2	4		A
6110	Green Canyon	19,432	4,506	23,938	27	0		D
6113	Crispy Tank	6,537	497	7,034	20	23	D	
6114	Fra Cristobal Ranch	4,295	0	4,295	18	150	D	
6117	Ladder Ranch	6,145	0	6,145	12	76	D	
6123	Decker Draw	680	0	680	1	1	D	
6129	Chiz Ranch	1,142	0	1,142	4	23	D	
6134	Lake Valley	1,579	0	1,579	13	41	D	
6136	Whiterock Mountain	5,394	0	5,394	24	32	D	
6147	Jornada Lakes	3,926	960	4,886	1	3		A
6148	Coyote Ranch	1,120	80	1,220	3	5		A
6149	Putnam Draw	11,620	3,786	15,406	2	9		A
7003	Bosworth, L.	2,507	1,210	3,717	8[d/7]	35	D	
7005	Cook and Batte	965	160	1,125	10	10	D	
7013	Danley, W.	5,684	9,203	14,887	23	53	D	
7015	Betty Douglas Estate	1,458	0	1,458	49	56	D	
7017	Fairchild, T.	3,531	0	3,531	32	51	D	
7022	Hansen, C&B	4,996	920	5,916	1	11	D	
7029	Mule Canyon	2,180	0	2,180	41	41	D	
7030	Domingo Springs Ranch	5,488	1,360	6,848	62	62	D	
7031	Laborcita Comm. Allot.	4,356	800	5,156	48	48	D	
7050	Black Ledge	16,002	24,462	40,464	23	228	D	
7052	Beeman Canyon	760	0	760	3	3	D	
7054	Phelps, J.	4,470	355	4,825	10	10	D	
7054	Phelps, J.	600	0	600	3	3	D	
7056	Nogal Canyon	1,115	110	1,225	4	4	D	
7063	Taylor, D.	2,160	0	2,160	23	38	D	
7065	Virden	7,285	4,626	11,911	47	47	D	
7066	Walker, C. R.	5,408	1,219	6,627	11	41	D	
7069	Walter, M.	595	612	1,207	5	5	D	
7080	Three Rivers Ranch	19,399	10,768	30,167	13	134	D	
9001	Bennett, W.	31,866	3,756	35,622	225	639	D44%	A56%
9002	Bennett, F.	6,570	4,088	10,658	29	66		A
9005	Havens, M. M.	2,461	250	2,666	92	210		A
9006	Cauhape, J. P.	42,781	22,830	65,611	751	3,324	D	
9007	Coupland, F.	720	0	720	30	67	D	
9008	Dean, C.	1,982	600	2,582	119	175	D	
9009	Pinon Creek	10,139	3,819	13,958	196	867	D	
9010	Little Americas	41,674	66,780	108,454	511	956	D63%	A73%

TABLE 2-9
BIG GAME FORAGE BY ALLOTMENT
(continued)

Allotment	Name	Public Acres	Other Acres	Total Acres	Present Required AUMs	Optimum AUMs	Big Game[a/] Proportions	
9011	Box Canyon	6,309	1,362	7,671	320	534	D99%	A1%
9012	Burnt Well	4,760	4,694	9,454	65	302	D	
9013	Duggar, B.	14,717	24,616	39,333	114	135	D75%	A25%
9014	Duggar	7,985	1,427	9,412	34	77		A
9015	Fleming, B.	80	0	80	6	7	D	
9016	W. A. Gage & Sons	7,289	14,996	22,285	168	676	D	
9018	Hat Ranch No. 1	57,788	31,838	89,626	318	820	D27%	A73%
9019	Havens, M. M.	80	0	80	3	7	D	
9020	Dog Canyon	18,728	13,748	32,476	1,057	1,626	D	
9021	Hughes Brothers	10,478	8,246	18,724	597	848	D	
9022	Hughes Brothers	400	0	400	21	31	D	
9023	Lewis, G.	1,606	1,495	3,071	76	172	D	
9024	V. K. Cattle Company	640	0	640	11	19	D	
9025	Akers, E. C.	2,065	1,560	3,625	15	46		A
9026	Chess, Home	15,461	3,600	19,061	47	111		A
9028	Wicker	6,055	1,280	7,335	48	144		A
9029	McArron	3,490	6,730	10,220	16	37		A
9030	Jones, W. T.	10,233	702	10,935	70	197	D43%	A57%
9031	Miller, T. L.	40,874	18,739	59,613	219	548	D15%	A85%
9033	Guadalupe, Ranch	19,760	1,898	21,658	259	380	D	
9035	Lewis, E.	29,833	6,703	36,536	542	931	D	
9036	Lewis, H.	32,942	3,025	35,967	868	1,002	D97%	A3%
9037	Lewis, P. Prather	10,230	4,150	14,380	51	116		A
9038	Kitch Ranch	6,125	1,480	7,605	237	395	D	
9039	Panther Canyon	15,965	3,345	19,310	655	1,051	D	
9040	Lewis, R.	11,824	1,965	13,789	366	611	D	
9041	Sacramento River	729	0	729	66	137	D	
9043	Merritt, J.	1,456	0	1,456	131	271	D	
9044	Kennedy Oil Company	3,694	3,844	7,538	69	344	D	
9045	Porter, D. I.	2,130	720	2,850	91	207	D	
9046	Indian Draw	19,914	5,055	24,969	831	1,867	D99%	A1%
9047	Deep Well	9,905	640	10,545	701	1,095	D95%	A5%
9048	Rauch, G.	6,455	1,600	8,055	340	567	D	
9049	Runyan-Mershon	17,940	18,347	36,287	423	1,326	D	
9050	Cornucopia Ranch	19,882	4,008	23,890	648	1,851	D	
9051	Runyan, J. B.	24,915	6,812	31,727	758	2,180	D	
9052	Smith, A.	1,620	40	1,660	66	151	D	
9053	Snow Ranch	38,362	4,449	42,811	817	1,050	D92%	A8%
9054	Gillum, J. R.	80	0	80	6	8	D	
9056	Wilkerson Well	6,223	2,401	8,624	184	567	D	
9057	Tanner, S. E.	240	0	240	10	23	D	
9058	Tanner, T. A.	7,391	1,860	9,251	135	611	D	
9059	Taylor, B.	2,478	1,820	4,298	102	232	D	
9060	Tidwell, K.	1,077	0	1,077	197	197	D	
9061	Van Cleve, R.	349	0	349	1	13	D	
9062	White, J.	9,519	1,488	11,007	538	897	D	
9063	Schafer, J. G.	15,107	665	15,772	253	419	D	
9064	Hat Ranch No. 2	38,722	9,546	48,268	331	610	D58%	A47%
9065	Magby, L.	120	0	120	6	9	D	
9066	Taylor, B.	160	0	160	6	14	D	
9067	Skeen, M.	4,721	2,217	6,938	265	432	D	
McGregor[e/]								
	Unit 1	31,000	0	31,000	246	103	D	
	Unit 2	25,000	0	25,000	182	83	D	
	Unit 3	32,000	0	32,000	1,186	1,081	D	
	Unit 4	13,000	0	13,000	662	645	D	
	Unit 5	20,000	0	20,000	838	893	D	
	Unit 7	19,000	0	19,000	191	104	D	
	Unit 8	17,000	0	17,000	335	305	D98%	A2%
	Unit 9	31,000	0	31,000	135	226	D46%	A54%
	Unit 10	12,000	0	12,000	57	76	D53%	A47%
	Unit 11	18,000	0	18,000	81	124	D48%	A52%
	Unit 12	8,000	0	8,000	41	59	D46%	A54%

TABLE 2-9
BIG GAME FORAGE BY ALLOTMENT
(concluded)

Allotment	Name	Public Acres	Other Acres	Total Acres	Present Required AUMs	Optimum AUMs	Big Game[a/] Proportions	
	Unit 13	20,000	0	20,000	96	150	D49%	A51%
	Unit 14	12,000	0	12,000	49	88	D45%	A55%
	Unit 15	13,000	0	13,000	62	95	D45%	A55%

Notes: [a/] D - Indicates deer, A - Indicates pronghorn, proportions are 100% use of AUMs unless otherwise specified.

[b/] Present AUM equivalents on 6000 series allotments: 8 deer/AUM, 12 pronghorn/AUM.

[c/] Optimum AUM equivalents on 6000 series allotments: 10 deer/AUM, 14 pronghorn/AUM.

[d/] Present and optimum AUM equivalents on 7000 and 9000 series allotments: 5 deer/AUM, 7 pronghorn/AUM.

[e/] Present and optimum AUM equivalents on McGregor Range: 17 deer/AUM, 19 pronghorn/AUM.

Water quality will be maintained or improved to meet standards in accordance with applicable State and Federal pollution control laws (such as the Clean Water Act of 1977, Executive Order 11752 (December 1973), and Executive Order 11988 (May 1977)). This will include consultation with State agencies on proposed projects that may significantly affect water quality. Current information on water resources will be obtained when necessary to support management activities.

Management actions affecting riparian zones (Tularosa and Sacramento Rivers) and floodplains will be designed to maintain or, where possible, improve hydrologic functions in accordance with BLM Policy.

Water rights will be acquired or perfected as necessary to carry out public land management purposes through State law and administrative claim procedures, except as otherwise specifically mandated by Congress.

Vegetation manipulation projects recommended under the rangeland management and wildlife activities will be conducted. Specific patterns, species to be used, and other requirements recommended by livestock forage and wildlife plans will be required in watershed planning and implementation.

The management facilitating project locations will be coordinated with the minerals activity in respect to areas under mining claims, future mineral material sale areas, and other areas.

Vegetation manipulation projects will be designed so that yucca and cactus species are not destroyed to the maximum extent possible. Vegetation adjacent to and within arroyos will not be removed.

Specific Decisions

W-1. A watershed activity plan will be developed on 23,236 acres in the area of Wind and Chess Draws in the Cornudas Mountains (Map 2-4). The primary objectives of the watershed treatments will be to improve watershed values by reducing peak runoff rates, reducing sediment yields, improving water quality, and receiving better on-site utilization of runoff in the long-term. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails on the 23,236 acres for protection of watershed values.

W-2. A watershed activity plan will be developed on 7,162 acres in the area of Moccasin and Otto Draws southwest of Pinyon (Map 2-4). The primary objectives of the watershed treatments will be to improve watershed values by reducing peak runoff rates, reducing sediment yields, improving water quality, and receiving better on-site utilization of runoff in the long-term. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails on the 7,162 acres for protection of watershed values.

W-3. A watershed activity plan will be developed on 10,742 acres in the area of unnamed watersheds east of Tularosa and south of the Tularosa River (Map 2-4). The primary objectives of the watershed treatments will be to improve watershed values by reducing peak runoff rates, reducing sediment yields, improving water quality, and receiving better on-site utilization of runoff in the long-term. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails on the 10,742 acres for protection of watershed values.

W-4. A watershed activity plan will be developed on 21,446 acres in the Three Rivers watershed north of Tularosa (Map 2-4). The primary objectives of the watershed treatments will be to improve watershed values by reducing peak runoff rates, reducing sediment yields, improving water quality, and receiving better on-site utilization of runoff in the long-term. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails on the 21,446 acres for protection of watershed values.

W-5. A watershed activity plan will be developed on 11,015 acres in the area east of Crow Flats (Map 2-4). The primary objectives of the watershed treatments will be to improve watershed values by reducing peak runoff rates, reducing sediment yields, improving water quality, and receiving better on-site utilization of runoff in the long-term. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails on the 11,015 acres for protection of watershed values.

W-6. Limit ORV use to existing roads and trails for McGregor Range north of State Road 506 (116,000 acres) for protection of watershed resources (Map 2-6).

VEGETATION

General Management Guidance

A threatened, endangered, State-listed, or sensitive species clearance will be completed by an authorized BLM officer prior to the beginning of any undertaking. If a "may affect" determination is made, consultation will be undertaken with the USFWS, NMDGF, or the New Mexico Heritage Program listing the species which may be affected. The results of the consultation will determine the course of action necessary to avoid adverse effects on listed species or their habitat.

Specific Decision

V-1. Designate 42 40-acre study plot exclosures, 1 for each of the 41 range sites and one of the standard habitat sites in Otero and Sierra Counties (1,680 acres). Fence the study plots from livestock (42 miles of fence) and close to ORV use. Fencing on existing study plots would be maintained to prevent livestock grazing. See Minerals Section, OGG-4 for legal description of existing ecological study plots and also Map 2-4. No allotment will have more than one exclosure.

AIR QUALITY

General Management Guidance

Prevention and reduction of air quality impacts from activities on public land are accomplished by mitigation measures developed on a case-by-case basis through the NEPA Process. Dust abatement stipulations will be included as part of permits or contracts on public land where air quality could significantly be affected.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

General Management Guidance

Cultural resources will continue to be inventoried and evaluated prior to any undertaking which might affect eligible or potentially eligible cultural resources, in accordance with the consultation procedures outlined in 36 CFR 800 and the Statewide Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement (PMOA) between the BLM, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the State Historic Preservation Officer (NMSO-168).

Specific Decisions

C-1. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails for the Three Rivers Petroglyph Site and Picnic Area (960 acres). The Three Rivers Management Plan will be amended to fence an additional 120 acres (for a total of 340 acres) and eliminate livestock grazing (Map 2-4).

C-2. The Rattlesnake Hill Archaeological District (640 acres) will be designated closed to ORV use and closed to future rangeland improvements for protection of cultural resources (Map 2-4). A Cultural Resource Management Plan will be developed for the Rattlesnake Hill Archaeological District. The objective of the plan will be to protect the cultural resources in the area.

C-3. The Alamo Mountain petroglyphs area (200 acres) will be designated No Surface Occupancy (NSO) and closed to ORV use for protection of cultural resources (Map 2-4). A Cultural Resource Management Plan will be developed for the Alamo Mountain petroglyphs area. The objective of the plan will be to protect the cultural resources in the area.

C-4. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails for Lone Butte area (100 acres) for protection of cultural resources (Map 2-4). A Cultural Resource Management Plan will be developed for the Lone Butte area. The objective of the plan will be to protect the cultural resources in the area.

C-5. A portion of the Jarilla Mountains (120 acres) will be designated closed to ORV use for protection of cultural resources (Map 2-4).

C-6. No surface disturbing activities will be allowed in an area 1/4-mile from each side of well-preserved segments of the

Butterfield Trail on public land (2,220 acres) (Map 2-4). A Cultural Resource Management Plan will be developed for the Butterfield Trail. The objective of the plan will be to protect the cultural resources in the area.

C-7. No surface disturbing activities will be allowed in an area 1/4-mile from each side of well-preserved segments of the Jornada del Muerto Trail on public land (1,252 acres) (Map 2-4). A Cultural Resource Management Plan will be developed for the Jornada del Muerto Trail. The objective of the plan will be to protect the cultural resources in the area.

C-8. BLM will begin a plan of action to establish procedures and priorities for conducting a 10 percent Class II cultural resource inventory and will initiate field work to accomplish this goal.

C-9. A Cultural Resource Management Plan will be developed for the archaeological sites on McGregor Range. The objective of the plan will be to protect the cultural resources in the area (Map 2-4).

RECREATION

General Management Guidance

Recreation programs in the WSRA are managed according to multiple-use principles, unless specified otherwise by law.

A wide range of recreation opportunities will be provided for all segments of the public. Impacts to recreation opportunities will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis when EAs are written for specific projects or proposals. Such evaluations will consider the significance of the proposed project and the sensitivity of recreation resources in the affected area. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to ensure compatibility of projects with recreation management objectives. Recreation use is managed in order to protect the health and safety of the users, to protect natural and cultural resource values, and to promote public use and enjoyment of the public land. WSRA management priority is given to undeveloped areas currently experiencing resource damage, user conflicts, or threatening visitor safety. Other priorities are preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources, including scenic, historic, and archaeological values, and primitive environments. Approximately 960 acres of surface and 840 acres of subsurface at the Three Rivers Petroglyph Site and Picnic Area will continue to be withdrawn under the Classification and Multiple Use (C&MU) Act to protect cultural and recreation values.

Areas not designated as limited or closed will remain open for ORV use. During the ORV designation process, restrictions and closures will be established for specific roads, trails, and areas. Interim or emergency ORV designations will be implemented in problem areas, if necessary. The area around the Jarilla Mountains will continue to be available for organized events. It is the policy of the WSRA to manage the ORV program to protect the resources of the public land, to promote the safety of all users of this land, and to minimize conflicts among the various uses of this land. All organized commercical and competitive ORV events are examined through the NEPA process on a case-by-case basis.

Specific Decisions

R-1. The road to Caballo Peak will be opened to casual recreational users. Scenic pull-offs will be constructed along the road. As a safety measure, signs will be posted that indicate the nature and quality of the road (Map 2-4).

R-2. The present stands of pinyon pine in the Cuchillo Mountains will be maintained as a pinyon nut collection area (Map 2-4).

R-3. Specific locations in the Resource Area will be monitored by the BLM during the deer hunting seasons. These areas include, but are not limited to, the San Andres, Brokeoff, Cornudas, Caballo, and Cuchillo Ranges, and the foothills of the Sacramento and Guadalupe Escarpments.

R-4. For public land not designated as limited or closed, designate "open" to ORV use. The total acreage for each ORV designation is:

Open: 1,526,180 acres
Limited: 224,010 acres
Closed: 2,640 acres

The following areas will be designated as "limited" to existing or "designated"* roads and trails for ORV use:

-- Watershed areas (see Soil and Water Resources Decisions W1-W5, Map 2-4)
-- Percha Creek riparian area (see Wildlife Decision WL-2, Map 2-3)
-- Three Rivers Petroglyph Site and Picnic Area (see Cultural Resources Decision C-1, Map 2-4)
*-- Sacramento Escarpment ACEC (see Visual Resources Decision VR-1, Map 2-4)
-- Lone Butte area (see Cultural Resources Decision C-4, Map 2-4)
-- McGregor Range north of State Road 506 (see Soil and Water Resources Decision W-6, Map 2-4)
-- Brokeoff Mountains (see Visual Resources Decision VR-2, Map 2-4)
-- Cornudas Mountains (see Visual Resources Decision VR-3, Map 2-4)
-- Cuchillo Mountains (see Visual Resources Decision VR-4, Map 2-4)

The following areas will be designated as "closed" to ORV use:

-- Study plot exclosures (see Vegetation Decision V-1, Map 2-4)
-- Rattlesnake Hill Archaeological District (see Cultural Resources Decision C-2, Map 2-4)
-- Alamo Mountain Petroglyphs area (see Cultural Resources Decision C-3, Map 2-4)
-- Jarilla Mountains (see Cultural Resources Decision C-5, Map 2-4)

VISUAL RESOURCES

General Management Guidance

Visual resources will continue to be evaluated as a part of activity and project planning. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed project, the visual sensitivity of the affected area, and the projected impacts of the project. Stipulations will be attached as appropriate to ensure compatibility of projects with management objectives for visual resources.

Specific Decisions

VR-1. Designate 3,640 acres of the Sacramento Escarpment as an ACEC for visual resources. A Sacramento Escarpment ACEC management plan has been developed. The objectives of the plan are to enhance, protect, and prevent irreparable damage to the scenic and recreational values of the Escarpment. The ACEC will be managed as a VRM Class I and ORV use will be limited to designated roads and trails. In addition to the existing 3,270 acres designated NSO, an additional 370 acres will be designated NSO (for a total of 3,640 acres). Acquisition of 80 acres was added to the Balanced Alternative from the Protection Alternative based on comments received during the final review. Acquisition of the 80 acres would increase the total acres for the ACEC to 3,720. A NSO designation will be proposed for the 80 acres when the acquisition has been consummated (Map 2-4).

VR-2. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails for the Brokeoff Mountains (7,779 acres) for protection of visual resources (Map 2-4).

VR-3. ORV use will be limited to existing roads and trails for the Cornudas Mountains (15,490 acres) for protection of visual resources (Map 2-4).

VR-4. ORV use will be limited existing roads and trails for the Cuchillo Mountains (6,160 acres) for protection of visual resources (Map 2-4).

WILDERNESS

General Management Guidance

The Brokeoff Mountains, Culp Canyon, and Jornada del Muerto Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) will continue to be managed in compliance with the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review (BLM 1979 and 1983) until they are reviewed and acted upon by Congress. Actions

will only be implemented if they satisfy the nonimpairment criteria (Map 2-4).

Public land within areas added by Congress to the National Wilderness Preservation System will be managed in compliance with the Wilderness Management Policy (BLM 1981). Site-specific wilderness management plans will be developed for designated wilderness areas.

Areas reviewed by Congress but not added to the National Wilderness Preservation System will be managed in accordance with other applicable guidance.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

General Management Guidance

The WSRA will continue to participate in the Joint Powers Agreement between the State of New Mexico and the United States Departments of Agriculture and the Interior. This agreement provides for mutual wildland fire assistance between the participating agencies. The WSRA is covered by the Lincoln Operating Unit established under this agreement.

The WSRA will continue to carry out the BLM's basic suppression policy of initial attack of all wildfires on or threatening public land with the objective being to contain the fire during the first burning period. This policy is implemented unless specific fire activity plans are prepared and approved in advance. Fires will be suppressed on all nonpublic lands in the WSRA initial attack zone. (Unit wide.)

BLM policy provides for limited fire suppression action in areas where the expense associated with the usual suppression procedures is not warranted. BLM determines the appropriate response to a wildland fire based upon suppression difficulty, the resource values threatened, and hazards to fire crews. Limited suppression plans are approved in advance defining the conditions in which a wildfire will be declared a limited suppression fire. Crew safety, along with economic factors, is normally the principal objective in designating an area for limited suppression.

The WSRA has a prescribed burning program. Prescribed burns are conducted as part of rangeland, wildlife, and watershed protection or improvement projects. These burns are analyzed on a project-by-project basis complying with the National Environmental Policy Act process.

CHAPTER 3

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PLAN

Following completion and approval of the White Sands RMP, implementation priorities will be established for the planning decisions by grouping them into one of three priority categories: high, medium, or low. Implementation of high priority decisions will be initiated within the next fiscal year, medium priority decisions within the next four years, and low priority decisions as time and funding permit. The implementation priorities will be tied to the budget process and will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect new administrative policy, new departmental directions, or new BLM goals.

The effects of implementing the White Sands RMP will be monitored and evaluated on a yearly basis, with certification of the Plan during the fifth year, to inform resource managers and the public of the progress of the Plan. The results being achieved under the Plan will be compared with Plan objectives.

Monitoring and evaluation will help the resource managers:

- to determine whether an action is accomplishing the intended purposes;
- to determine whether mitigating measures are satisfactory;
- to determine if the decisions in the Plan are being accomplished;
- to determine if the related plans of other Federal agencies or State and local Governments or Indian tribes have changed resulting in an inconsistency with the RMP;
- to identify any unanticipated or unpredictable effects;
- to identify new data of significance to the Plan.

Monitoring will also help to establish long-term use and resource condition trends for the Resource Area and will provide valuable information for future planning.

This Plan will be maintained as necessary to reflect minor changes in data. Maintenance will be limited to refining or documenting a previously approved decision. It will not expand the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the Plan. Maintenance will be documented in supporting records. Formal public involvement will not be necessary to maintain the Plan.

Implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and maintenance of the Plan will be in accordance with the Las Cruces District Office Supplemental Guidance 1617 (Dated July 29, 1985).

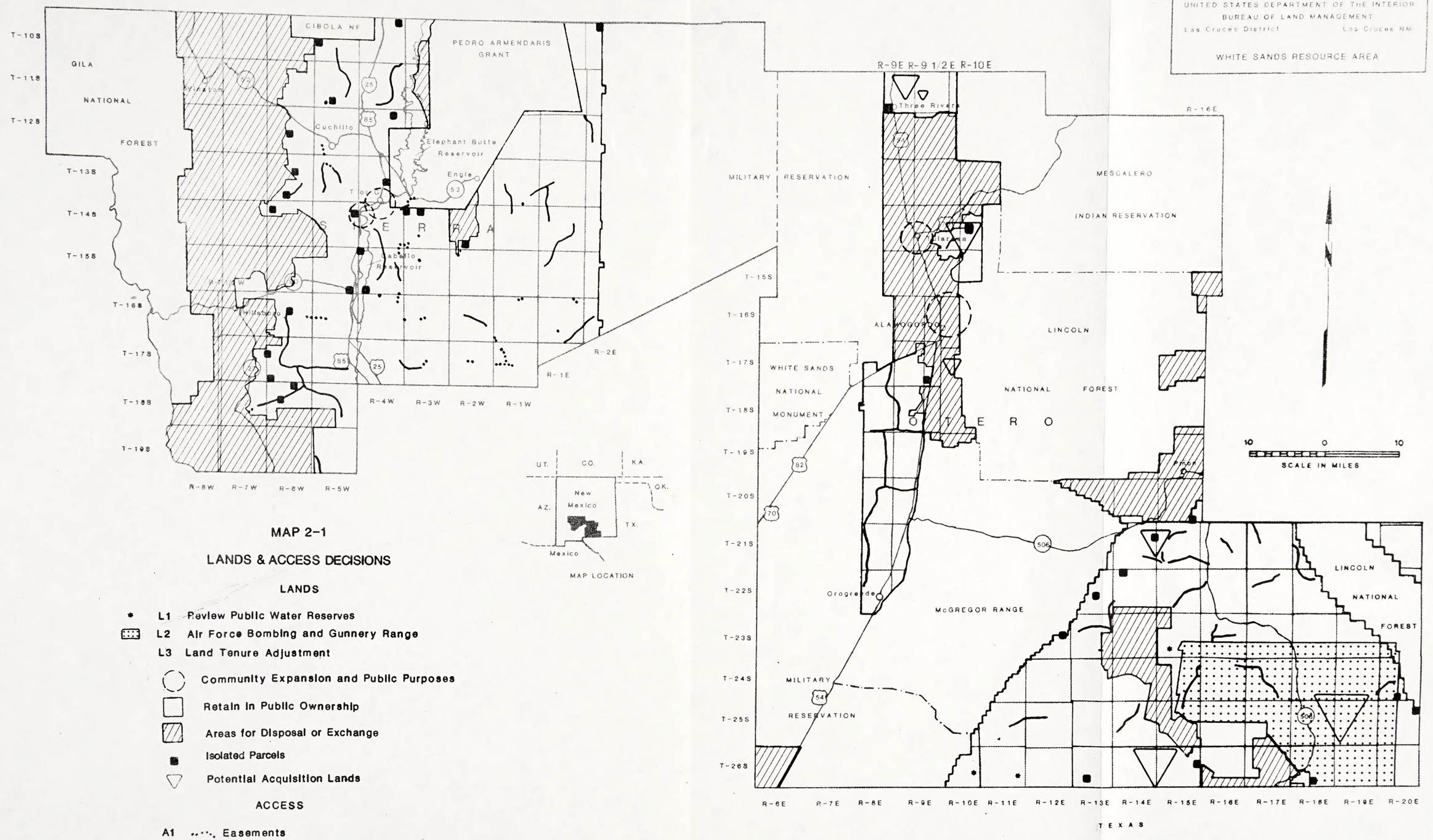
IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PLAN

DECISION MAPS

DECISION MAPS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Las Cruces District — Las Cruces, NM

WHITE SANDS RESOURCE AREA



MAP LOCATION

MAP 2-1

LANDS & ACCESS DECISIONS

LANDS

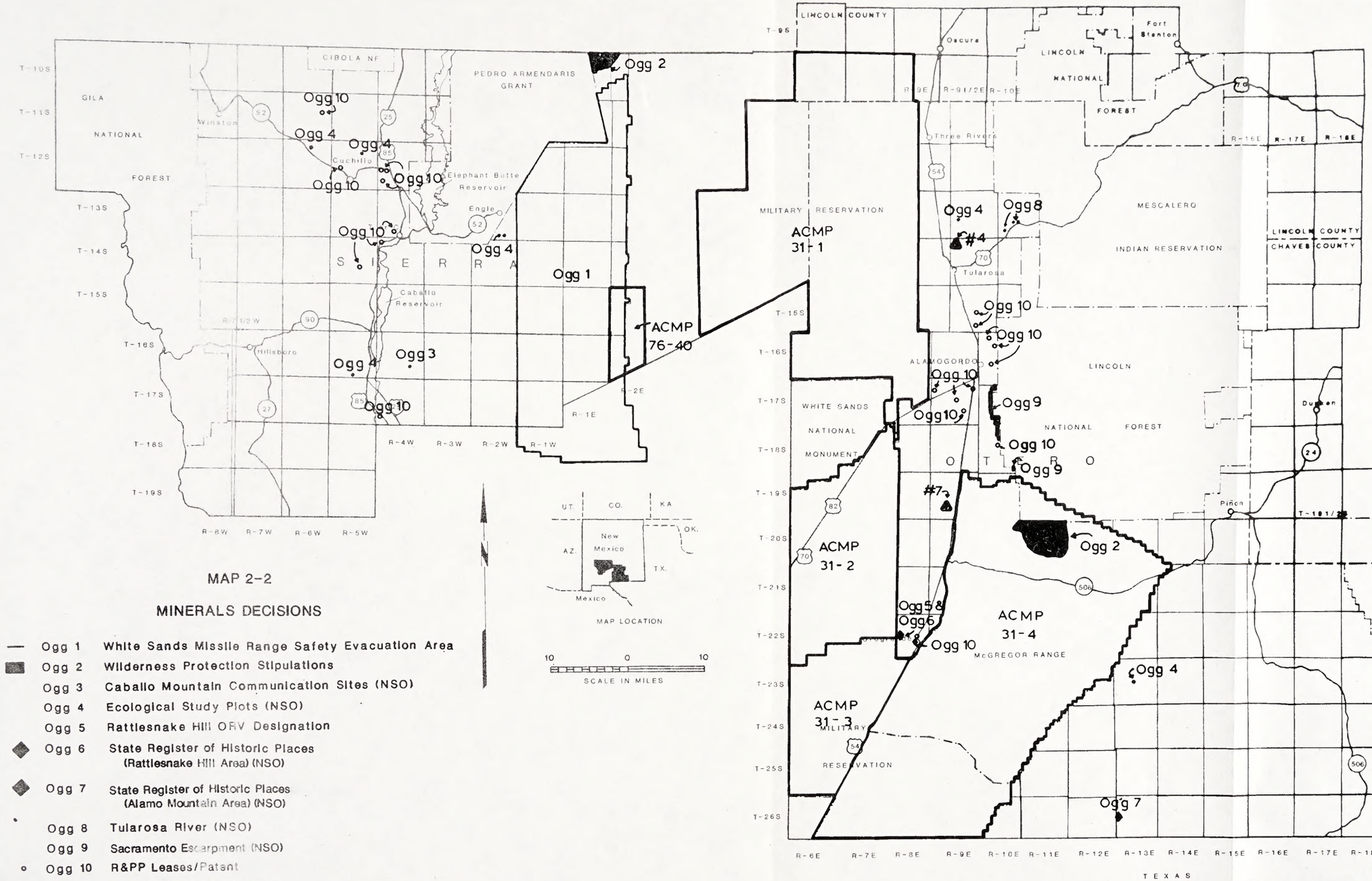
- L1 Review Public Water Reserves
- L2 Air Force Bombing and Gunnery Range
- L3 Land Tenure Adjustment
- Community Expansion and Public Purposes
- Retain in Public Ownership
- Areas for Disposal or Exchange
- Isolated Parcels
- Potential Acquisition Lands

ACCESS

- A1 Easements
- Roads

Source: BLM Las Cruces District Files 1986.

MAP 2-1 LANDS & ACCESS DECISIONS



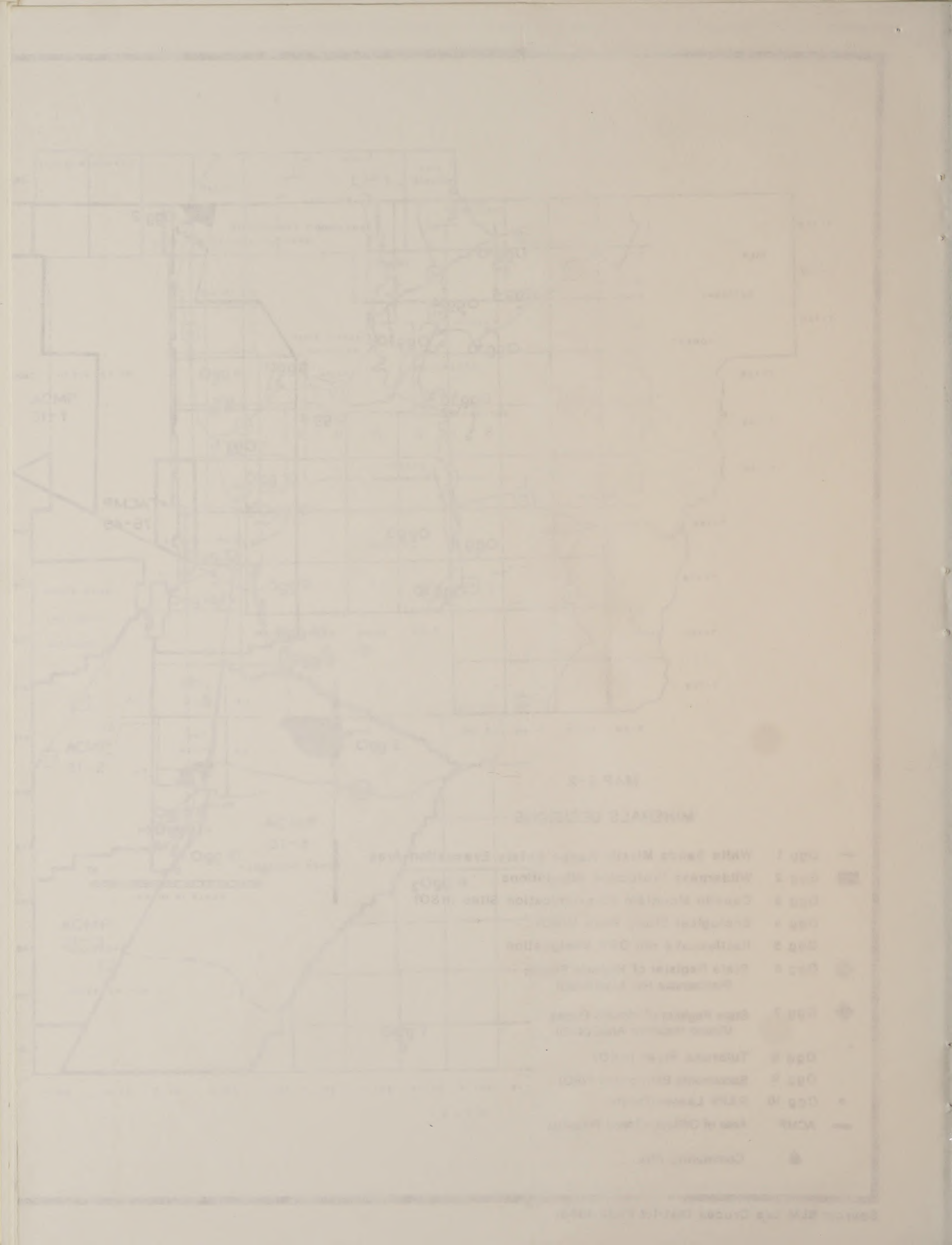
MAP 2-2

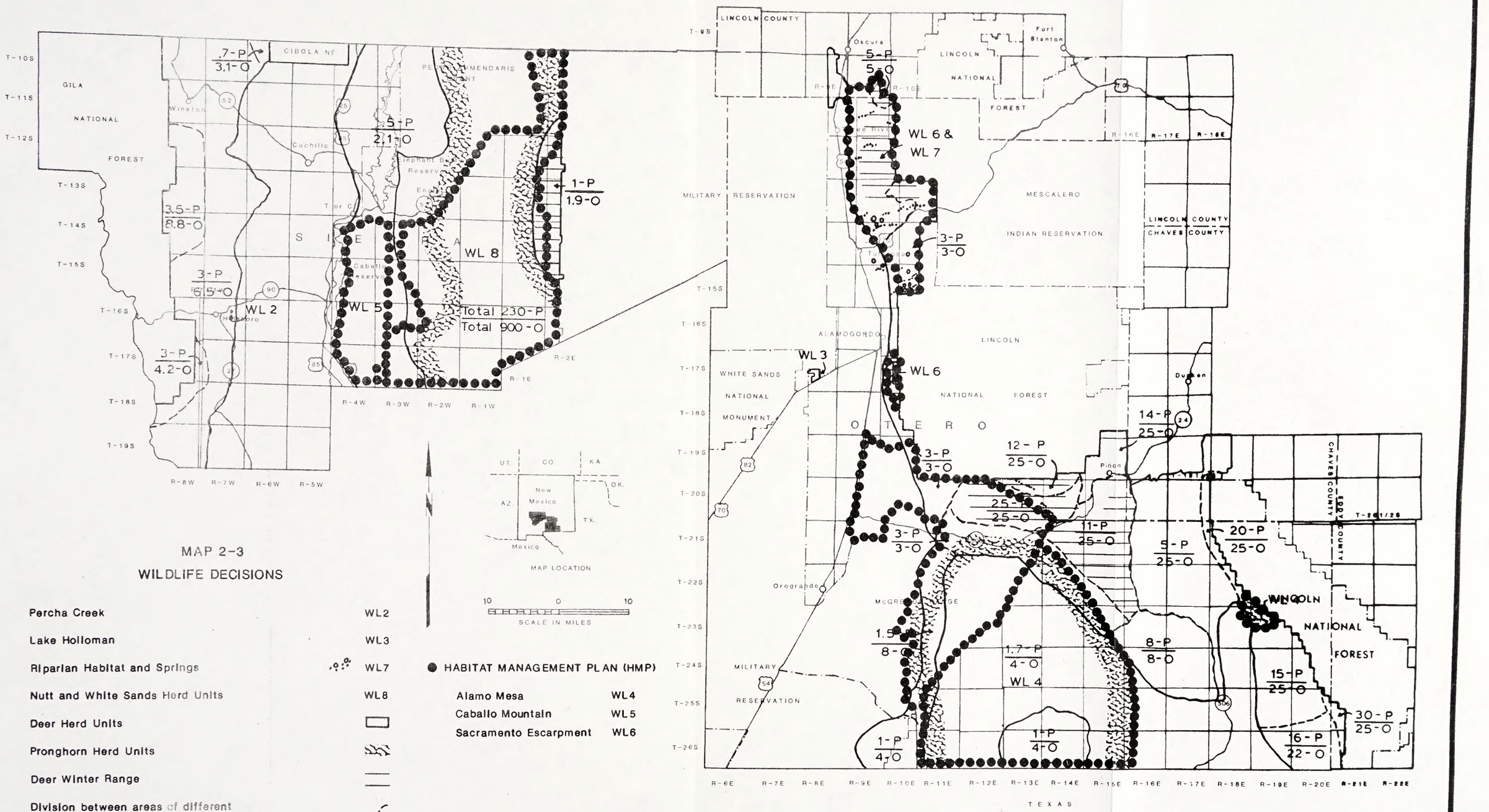
MINERALS DECISIONS

—	Ogg 1	White Sands Missile Range Safety Evacuation Area
■	Ogg 2	Wilderness Protection Stipulations
	Ogg 3	Caballo Mountain Communication Sites (NSO)
	Ogg 4	Ecological Study Plots (NSO)
	Ogg 5	Rattlesnake Hill ORV Designation
◆	Ogg 6	State Register of Historic Places (Rattlesnake Hill Area) (NSO)
◆	Ogg 7	State Register of Historic Places (Alamo Mountain Area) (NSO)
	Ogg 8	Tularosa River (NSO)
	Ogg 9	Sacramento Escarpment (NSO)
○	Ogg 10	R&PP Leases/Patent
—	ACMP	Area of Critical Mineral Potential
▲		Community Pits

Source: BLM Las Cruces District Files 1986.

MAP 2-2 MINERALS DECISIONS





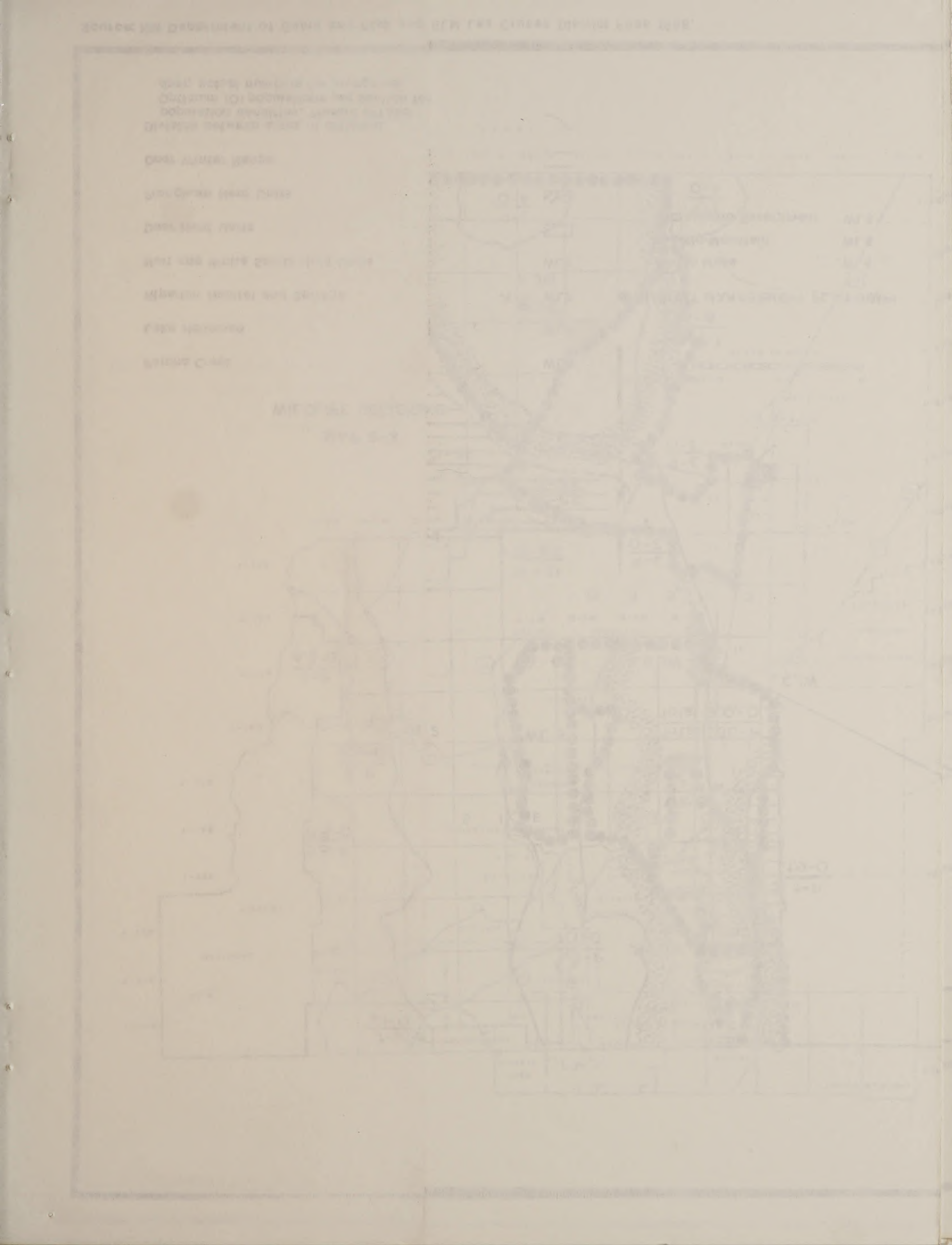
MAP 2-3
WILDLIFE DECISIONS

Percha Creek	WL2
Lake Holloman	WL3
Riparian Habitat and Springs	WL7
Nutt and White Sands Herd Units	WL8
Deer Herd Units	
Pronghorn Herd Units	
Deer Winter Range	
Division between areas of different population densities. Present (P) and Optimum (O) populations per section for deer, actual numbers for pronghorn.	

● HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN (HMP)

Alamo Mesa	WL4
Caballo Mountain	WL5
Sacramento Escarpment	WL6

Source: NM Department of Game and Fish and BLM Las Cruces District Files 1986.



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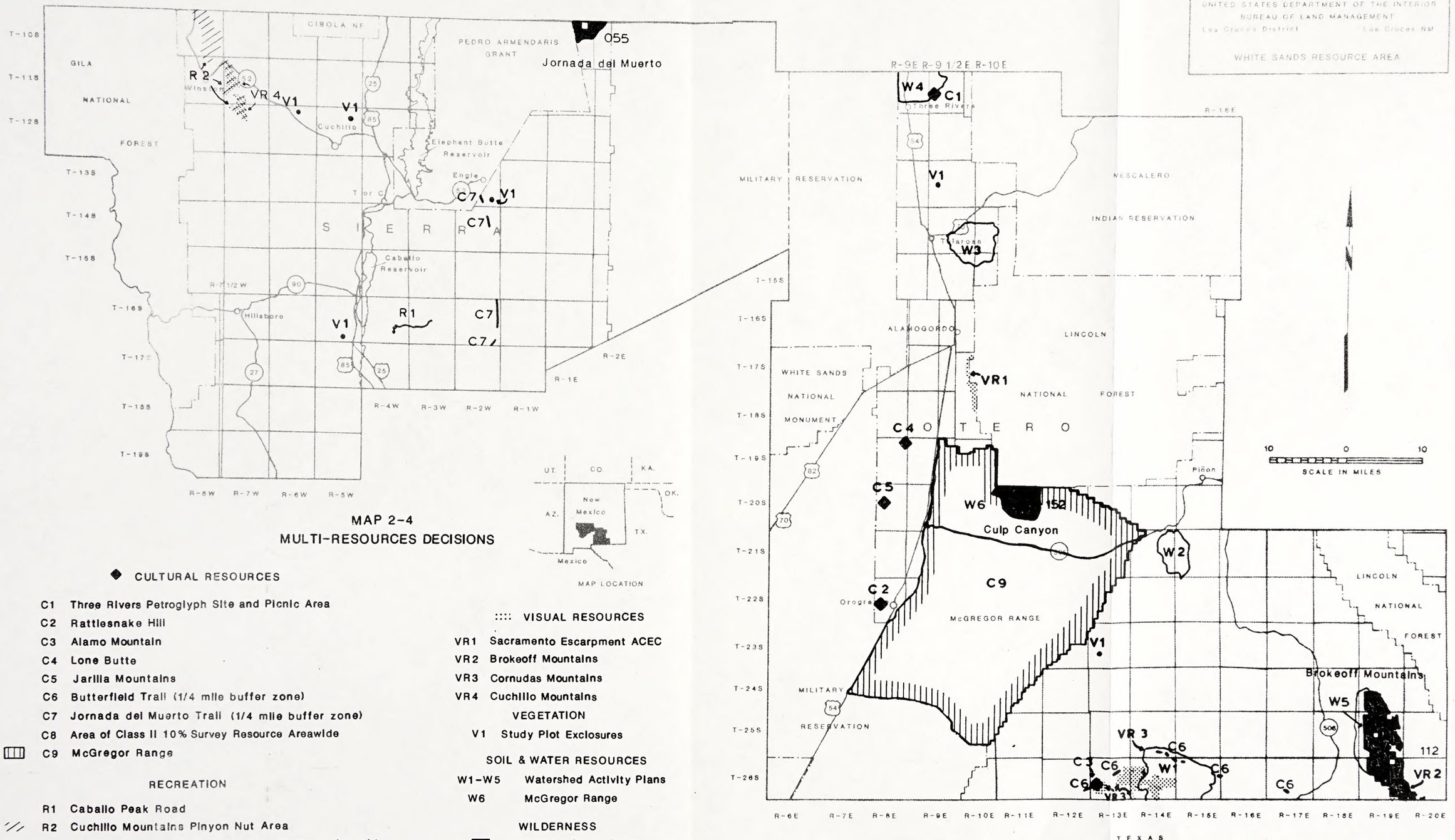
WHITE SANDS RESOURCE AREA



MAP LOCATION

MAP 2-4
MULTI-RESOURCES DECISIONS

◆ CULTURAL RESOURCES

- C1 Three Rivers Petroglyph Site and Picnic Area
- C2 Rattlesnake Hill
- C3 Alamo Mountain
- C4 Lone Butte
- C5 Jarilla Mountains
- C6 Butterfield Trail (1/4 mile buffer zone)
- C7 Jornada del Muerto Trail (1/4 mile buffer zone)
- C8 Area of Class II 10% Survey Resource Areawide
- C9 McGregor Range

RECREATION

- R1 Caballo Peak Road
- R2 Cuchillo Mountains Pinyon Nut Area
- R3 Operation Respect Deer Hunt Patrol Resource Areawide
- R4 Includes W1 – W6, VR1 – VR4, C1 – C5, V1, WL2.

:::: VISUAL RESOURCES

- VR1 Sacramento Escarpment ACEC
- VR2 Brokeoff Mountains
- VR3 Cornudas Mountains
- VR4 Cuchillo Mountains

VEGETATION

- V1 Study Plot Exclosures

SOIL & WATER RESOURCES

- W1–W5 Watershed Activity Plans
- W6 McGregor Range

WILDERNESS

- Wilderness Study Areas

Source: BLM Las Cruces District Files 1986.

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